

WEATHER
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Mordechai, Sharon big winners in Likud

SARAH HONIG
YITZHAK Mordechai confounded all the pollsters and came out on top of the heap in the Likud primaries, followed by MK Ariel Sharon, regarded as the true big winner in terms of his political power play.

Amir sentenced to life for Rabin murder

RAINE MARCUS
AN unrepentant Yigal Amir was convicted of the murder of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin by Tel Aviv District Court yesterday.



Yigal Amir awaits his sentencing in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday. (Gideon Markowicz/PPA)

Levy also mentioned the consistent testimony of eyewitnesses, including General Security Service and police officers. Amir, he said, reiterated that, under police interrogation, he had made all his statements of his own free will.

Amir was calm and composed throughout the reading of the verdict. After a short break, prosecutor Penina Guy and defense lawyer Shmuel Fleishman presented their arguments on sentencing.

Justice has been done - and been seen

AND now, let it be known that one Yigal Amir, with malice aforethought, did kill one Yitzhak Rabin, a well-loved leader of a much bewildered nation.

COMMENT
YORAM SHACHAR
but to the vast majority of Israelis, including some close colleagues in legal academia, let alone the proverbial taxi driver.

GSS prevented seven suicide attacks in '95

THE GSS prevented seven attempted suicide attacks and five attempts to enter Israel with car bombs during 1995. This was disclosed yesterday at the hearing of a petition to the High Court of Justice to ban GSS agents from using excessive force against Hamas member Ziad Gazal.

Shamgar Commission to present report today

BILL HUTMAN
THE Shamgar Commission will probably recommend disciplinary action be taken against the seven General Security Service and police officers who investigated during its inquiry into the assassination of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Assaf Hefetz, despite the commission's warning letter that held him responsible for not removing unauthorized people from the area where Rabin was shot.

Shekel drops 1.29% against dollar, now 3.12

THE shekel depreciated by 1.29 percent toward the US dollar yesterday, settling at a seven-week high of 3.128 to the dollar.

Hijackers give up after forcing plane to Libya

CAIRO (AP) - Three Saudi hijackers surrendered yesterday after forcing an Egypt Air jetliner with 152 passengers and crew members to land in Tobruk, Libya.

'Anti-terror funds for Israel are a non starter'

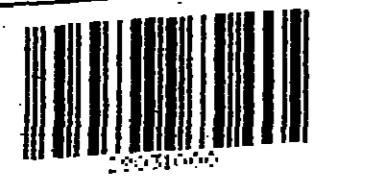
HOUSE Foreign Operations Subcommittee chairman Sonny Callahan yesterday told Secretary of State Warren Christopher that the administration must cease promising additional foreign aid to the Middle East.

Callahan also told Christopher that while he hopes Israeli-Syrian negotiations lead to peace, "once again, I forewarn you that any monetary commitment to Syria is going to be seriously scrutinized by me, as well as some of the other members."

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YIGAL AMIR VERDICT

Was the assassin fairly represented?

RAINE MARCUS

WAS Yigal Amir given fair legal representation? Did Judge Edmund Levy - who throughout the trial insisted that Amir be represented after lawyers quit, were fired, or were found incompetent - give the attorneys he appointed time to prepare an adequate defense?

Undoubtedly, the results would have been the same - it just would have taken a little longer.

A senior defense lawyer last week criticized Levy for rushing the trial. "Judge Levy, when he witnessed the inability or unwillingness of lawyers to defend Amir should have summoned the Bar Association chairman and ordered him to find two senior lawyers to take on the case," he said.

"The eyes of the world were mercilessly watching us. Our legal system is basically good - most is taken from British law with a few American adaptations. But, from a legal aspect only, without introducing emotions, things should have been conducted differently.

"When the two new defense lawyers [Shmuel Fleishman and Gabi Shabar] were appointed, Levy should have given them ample time to scrutinize all prosecution material. He should have allowed them to send an independent psychiatrist to examine Amir.

"[But] yes, the verdict and sentencing would have been the same. Shortly after Amir's arrest, his family hired the unknown and inexperienced Mordechai Offri, who insisted he would not conduct a political trial and was later fired.

Then a Canadian businessman apparently hired the American-trained Jonathan Ray Goldberg, who had extreme right-wing views and no experience in the Israeli legal system. He incurred Levy's wrath several times because of his incompetence.

"We have spent days and nights examining evidence," Levy said to him. "You should have done the same."

Offri rejoined the defense team, only to quit after a session or two because of differences of opinion with Amir - and Goldberg. And anyway, no one had paid him.

At times, an articulate and knowledgeable Amir, a former law student, defended himself better than any of his lawyers.

Levy, stating that he would not neglect Amir's basic rights, searched for another lawyer, eventually finding Avraham Pachter, a former senior attorney in the District Attorney's Office. Pachter changed his mind 24 hours later.

The court then appointed two not so senior lawyers, Fleishman and Shabar. They too had differences of opinion on the line of defense. The case cost Fleishman his job with Dr. Haim Misgav, a long-standing defense lawyer.

On occasion, Levy lost his temper with them too, but tried to show restraint. He refused to grant a postponement, saying that Goldberg had already studied the evidence. Fleishman and Shabar did not have enough time to re-examine the evidence and Goldberg kept quiet in court.

A mother weeps for her son

RAINE MARCUS

GEULA Amir was less composed yesterday than in her few previous court appearances early in the trial. She realized she would probably never see her son outside jail again.

"Now it's the end, Geula," someone said during a two-hour break, in the packed space outside the courtroom, between the verdict and sentencing.

"For you, it's the end," said a sobbing Geula. "For us, the nightmare has just started. I couldn't come to all previous hearings. It was painful and I had to work. Today, someone replaced me. Our plight is terrible and will continue to be so for years."

Trying to contain her tears, her trembling hands lit a cigarette. "What was written on the back of Yigal's sweatshirt?" someone asked.

"I don't know. I didn't see. I don't do his laundry anymore. You know, that's when you know your kids have gone - when you stop doing their laundry," she said, trying to remain composed.

One could even feel sorry for her. You forget that she is the mother of the assassin of Yitzhak Rabin - she was just a mother with blood-shot eyes bemoaning her son's fate.

Immediately after Yigal's arrest last November 4, Geula sobbed in front of the TV cameras. Crocodile tears, someone said. She must have known. How could she not have known about the massive caches of explosives and ammunition hidden in the family's garden and home? How could she not have known that her son was plotting to assassinate Rabin?

To the press, Geula became tough and uncompromising. Eitan Haber vowed to haunt the family for the rest of their lives. The word "monsters" was scrawled outside their home. Hadas Amir.

Yigal's 15-year-old sister, made matters worse in an interview for BBC-TV when she said that her brother had been misunderstood.

But while waiting for the judges to pass sentencing, Geula, neatly dressed, and accompanied by several of her eight children and other family members, slammed the press for "passing a guilty verdict on the family, too."

"We do not approve in any way of his act," she stressed. "Why should we be blamed? Only the other day, Shulamit Aloni protested about terrorists' families having to pay the price for their suicide bomber sons by having their houses blown up. We will pay the price for Yigal's deed for the rest of our lives. We are serving a punishment, too."

During his trial, Amir was moved to Hasharon Prison, where he is segregated from other prisoners. The Amir family visits him once a week, for half an hour - in a cage, with no possibility of physical contact," according to his mother.

Now he will be transferred to a different prison, and still kept isolated. "I don't care where he is, as long as it's not too far away, not Beersheba, where he was held before," said Geula.

"I am not worried about his mental well-being," she said. "He is strong and an individualist - he always read and studied. He will continue reading and studying in his prison cell, too. He's told us not to worry."

Shlomo Amir, who throughout the trial read psalms, said his son intends to write a book about his "philosophy of life and his motives for the murder."

"I don't think he will start writing yet," said Geula. "He'll be okay. But we're not."



Yigal Amir stands in court as he listens to his sentence of life imprisonment. Picture is from a television monitor.

Haber: Peace will avenge Rabin's murder

DAVID MAKOVSKY

"PEACE will avenge the blood of Yitzhak Rabin," Eitan Haber, the slain premier's confidante, said after Yigal Amir was convicted and sentenced.

Haber, who sat in the courtroom daily as the trial unfolded and often seemed shaken behind his sunglasses, said, "Amir speaks in the name of God. If this is his God, I am proud that I and many others have a different one."

"Of all the drawings and graffiti that I saw at Rabin Square, I loved the one that read, 'Peace will avenge his blood,' Haber said.

"I very much hope, pray, and believe that before this scum rots in prison and sees his last day, he will see that his bullet attained just the opposite of what he wanted," Haber said.

Haber also said he is convinced Amir will not have his sentence commuted by a single day by any future president of Israel.

"There will never be such a president in Israel," he said.

He refused to say whether he is upset that Israel has no death penalty, with the exception of Nazi war criminals.

Foreign media out in force

ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

ALTHOUGH the outcome of Yigal Amir's trial was predictable, the international media turned out in full force.

More than 250 journalists crowded the Tel Aviv District Court building to watch Amir receive his verdict and sentence. Since there was little room in the courtroom, a special video room was set up in the court's library, where 16 television screens broadcast the proceedings.

Among the crowd of reporters were a handful of disappointed citizens, who for various reasons had wanted to go into the courtroom.

"I really wanted to come see the verdict and the sentence. When the murder happened, it was so shocking and had such a profound effect on me, I felt like I had to be here," said Dov Brisman, 62.

Orna Steiner, 37, lives only a few blocks from where Amir grew up in Herzliya. "Rabin's murder hurt me so deeply. I feel like I've been through the whole experience. After the murder, I went to Rabin Square. I went to Mt. Herzl to see his grave. Somehow, I feel like being here closes the circle for me."

Remarkably, Amir also drew his share of admirers. Two teenagers stood in the corridor trying to gain a glimpse of his family members. They refused to reveal their names, they said, because they didn't want to "get in trouble" for their warm feelings toward Amir.

"I came because I wanted to see him," one of them giggled. "I like him. I think he's very handsome. He has inner and outer beauty."

Both said they would be interested in corresponding and forming a relationship with Amir, despite the likelihood he would spend the rest of his life in prison.

"I don't think it's right to kill," the second girl said. "But I don't think the fact that he did is a reason not to want a connection with him."

In the courtroom and the library, all spectators were carefully studying Amir's expressions as Judge Edmund Levy read the verdict and the sentence. Throughout the reading, Amir lacked the wiseguy smile that so angered those who saw him during the course of the trial. The only time he smiled widely was when his family walked into the courtroom, and he seemed far more puffy-eyed, tired, and unshaven than during previous court appearances.

A fair amount of tension prevailed among spectators, although the verdict was already known. The crowd was disappointed with the rather dry and legal tone of the lengthy verdict. However, they craned their necks with interest during Levy's more emotional sentencing, when he dramatically described Rabin's murder, the shock and the pain it caused.

Interest reached its height when Amir made his final statement, launched into a political speech, and was repeatedly interrupted by Levy, who told him to move on to his next point.

In lieu of a reaction from Amir himself, the domestic and foreign camera crews chased his family for a reaction, but Amir's parents and sisters left without making comments.

The court passes judgment

The current indictment is one of the severest that has [ever] been submitted to an Israeli court. The decision to murder the prime minister, which was made with cold consideration and clear thinking, is not another "ordinary" crime - which also must not be dealt with lightly - but was perpetrated, at least according to the accused's version, against a political background. Up until now, we innocently believed that this was the inheritance of others, not our inheritance.

We deeply regret that a man was killed, the leader of a nation and a people, who had borne the yoke of public service for many years. First as a soldier, and afterwards as a statesman. Many dangers lay in wait for him along the way, and he had succeeded in evading them all, until at the apex of his career, bullets - fired from an unexpected direction, not by a stranger or an enemy, but by one of our own - found him.

The heart grieves and the eye weeps, because we - as a people - also have taken a chilling slap on an exposed cheek, when it became clear that criminal behavior had also reached our political life, as apparently ideological motives cut down the life of a man. And since history teaches that in any ideology which sanctifies murder

Excerpts from the sentencing of Yigal Amir as given by Judge Edmund A. Levy.

as an end, murder [in its own right] becomes the entire ideology. And again we are confronted with proof that the decline in values among us has become a plague, even such that the importance and sanctity of life - which had been a lofty and indisputable value - is again, no longer as it was yesterday or the day before, even in those among us whose hearts have become unfeeling.

When thought was given to the possibility of an attempt being made on the life of an Israeli leader, we dismissed it as unlikely, since we innocently believed that in this area, we were not like other peoples. And suddenly, the illusion came to an end, and the picture of the late prime minister collapsing after the assassin's bullets had found him, has not disappeared from before our eyes.

Those same bullets wounded the humanity of an entire nation and many millions who - for a long time - sought to believe that this was a nightmare and not reality, but who, every time they opened their eyes, again saw that awful horror. The time which has since passed has not lessened the great pain.

Every murder is an abominable act, but the act before us is sevenfold more abominable, because not only has the accused not expressed regret or sorrow, but he also seeks to show that he is at peace with himself over the act that he perpetrated. He who so calmly cuts short another's life, only proves the depth of wickedness to which [his] values have fallen, and thus he does not merit any regard whatsoever, except pity, because he has lost his humanity.

The fact that such a wild growth could sprout from within our midst requires us to examine which parts of Israel's educational system failed in not successfully imparting and establishing the foundations of democracy into elements of the younger generation. The accused's actions are not

only a personal failing, and it is not with him alone with whom we are coming to terms today. It is with everyone who, directly or indirectly, specifically or in general, gave him to understand that it was permissible to cut down a person's life on the basis of any ideology whatsoever.

The debate going on among us is difficult and pointed, because it deals with basic and existential issues for the State of Israel, not only for our generation, but mainly for future generations. We all agree on a common denominator - a genuine and sincere concern for the peace of the country on the one hand, and peace with our neighbors on the other.

As is customary in a democratic state, this discussion must be conducted firmly, yet with mutual respect and tolerance, with the latter being of particular importance especially when unpopular opinions are voiced by a minority. Furthermore, the split in the nation will neither disappear nor heal by words alone, but rather by deeds, first and foremost, the deeds of the public's leaders - from the entire political spectrum - who are commanded to teach themselves - day and night: "Wise men are careful of your words. Revenge is not a factor in rendering the sentence and, heaven forbid, that it should be a consideration in weighing the sentence. Therefore, when a court of law metes out its sentence, it must be calm and rational and remove anger from its heart lest a feeling of revenge cause it to stray from the right and just." (Rabbi Shlomo Ben-Aderet, 1235-1310)

However, when a court comes to render a verdict against a criminal who has committed such an unspeakable offense as is before us, it cannot ignore consideration of the suitability of the punishment to the offense.

This is not an act of revenge, but rather an expression of revulsion and disgust against this crime which, due to its severity, undermines the very existence of civilized society.

(Translation by Government Press Office)

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JCHC The Jerusalem Community Health Centers extend sincere condolences to Dr. Amnon Shinar on the passing of his father MOSHE SCHNEIDER

With sorry we mourn the death of our beloved NAT COHEN The funeral will take place on Friday, March 29, at 10:30 a.m., at Hayarkon Cemetery.

With sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved LUBA BERGER The funeral will take place at Kibbutz Tzora on Friday, March 29, at 2 p.m.

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our dear Dr. AHARON ELLERAN (S.J.) The funeral will leave today, Thursday, 8 Nissan, 5756, March 28, 1996, at 5:30 p.m., from the deceased's home, Etzion 9, Ra'aana, to the cemetery at Kibbutz Lavi.

Partial view of an advertisement on the right edge of the page, including the text 'The Lik...' and 'Way cons... gous Knes'.



Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu (left) congratulates new Knesset candidate Yitzhak Mordechai on winning top spot in the primaries at party headquarters in Tel Aviv yesterday. (Yossi Zeliger/IFPA)

Sharon was Likud's big primaries winner

ANALYSIS
SARAH HONIG

MKS ZE'EV (Benny) Begin and Dan Meridor winning the fourth and sixth places, respectively, in the Likud's national primary appears to give credence to the rumors of a plot to push them down the leadership scale via deals and prepared lists which omitted their names.

The rationale was that both were harming Binyamin Netanyahu's campaign for the premiership. Meridor was said to be suspected of attempting a coup against Netanyahu, while Begin sought to foil the grand union of the national camp with his carping speech at the Likud central committee meeting.

But, according to the rumors, Netanyahu's list also excluded MK Ariel Sharon. If all this is to be believed, then Netanyahu failed miserably in Sharon's case, but did clip a few feathers from Begin's and Meridor's wings. The problem with this theory is that all three were reported absent from the same lists.

If the voters did follow instructions from above, then all three would have been affected. The theory's most basic flaw, however, is that the Likud lacks the effective party machine that operates in Labor. There are no organized blocs — such as the unions of Israel Electric Corporation, Egged, Bezek, Truva, and Histadrut enterprises — to manipulate. In fact, the Likud almost lacks an establishment and it has no disciplined membership which follows dictates from above.

Instead local cliques and power-brokers attempt to advance their candidates. It is likely that those ambitious frontrunners who aspired to place themselves at the top made sure their supporters did not vote for other frontrunners. Sharon supporters are likely not to have helped Begin or Meridor, and the same is true of those behind MK Moshe Katsav and other top contenders.

In addition, Begin did not campaign at all, putting himself above the distasteful fray. Meridor also was not an aggressive campaigner.

It is a tribute to their basic popularity that they did not fall further back. Had Netanyahu really embarked on a vendetta against them, far greater damage could have been done.

The one who no doubt received a boost from the competing ambitions of the Likud leadership was Yitzhak Mordechai. Besides enjoying genuine popularity, those who pushed lists omitting their opponents included him. As a newcomer, he has no enemies, and since the polls did not put him in the top 10 many even felt sorry for him.

But Mordechai was not a player in the party power struggles. Sharon was and that made him the single biggest winner in the contest, undoubtedly a reward for his relentless efforts to unify the national camp.

Despite their palpable flaws, the pacts with Tsomet and Geshet are popular among the Likud rank and file. As the architect of unity, Sharon earned extra support, which Begin and Meridor lost by being out of step with the grassroots yearnings for unity.

The Likud-Gesher-Tsomet joint ticket

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Binyamin Netanyahu | 17. Michael Eitan | 33. Reuven Rivlin |
| 2. David Levy (Gesher) | 18. Sylvan Shalom | 34. Ron Nachman |
| 3. Rafael Eitan (Tsomet) | 19. Gideon Ezra | 35. Yisrael Katz |
| 4. Yitzhak Mordechai | 20. Moshe Peled (Tsomet) | 36. Doron Shmueli (Tsomet) |
| 5. Ariel Sharon | 21. Michael Kleiner (Gesher) | 37. Mordechai Mishani (Gesher) |
| 6. Moshe Katsav | 22. Meir Sheerit | 38. Ovadia Eli |
| 7. Ze'ev (Benny) Begin | 23. Eliahu Ben-Elissar | 39. Zvi Zilker |
| 8. Eliezer Zandberg (Tsomet) | 24. Dan Tichon | 40. Ezra Binyamini |
| 9. David Magen (Gesher) | 25. Naomi Blumenthal | 41. Ya'acov Bardugo (Gesher) |
| 10. Ehud Olmert | 26. Yehoshua Matza | 42. Nehama Ronen (Tsomet) |
| 11. Dan Meridor | 27. Avraham Herschson | 43. Yossi Olmert |
| 12. Tzahi Hanegbi | 28. David Re'em | 44. Dov Shilansky |
| 13. Uzi Landau | 29. Ze'ev Boim | 45. Yuli Kosharovsky (new immigrant) |
| 14. Maxim Levy (Gesher) | 30. Yehuda Lankei (Gesher) | 46. Assad Assad (minorities) |
| 15. Haim Dayan (Tsomet) | 31. Pini Badash (Tsomet) | 47. Geula Cohen |
| 16. Limor Livnat | 32. Shaul Amor | 48. Yossi Ahimeir |

Agudat Yisrael bows to Degel Hatorah's unification demands

HERB KEINON

AGUDAT Yisrael threw the gauntlet at Degel Hatorah's feet yesterday, according to its demand for 50-50 parity on the next United Torah Judaism list, but making this conditional on a complete merger of the two haredi factions.

The two factions have been wrangling for months over representation on the UTJ Knesset slate, with Aguda wanting the first and third positions on the joint list and a mid-term rotation with Degel for the fourth slot, while Degel objects to the rotation, wanting the second and fourth slots for the full Knesset term.

Aguda's Council of Sages met in Bnei Brak yesterday and said it is willing to split the list with Degel, but that it wants a complete merger, meaning that the name Degel Hatorah will have to disappear and the faction's daily newspaper, *Yated Ne'eman*, will have to become a weekly.

Officials in both parties were skeptical that the gap could be bridged, and there even was talk of the two factions running separate lists. One rumor being circulated is that Degel will place Shas renegade MK Yosef Azran on its

list, after MKs Avraham Ravitz and Moshe Gafni. Aguda's Council of Sages has filled its top two slates with Jerusalem Deputy Mayor Meir Porush and Shmuel Halperin.

In light of this threat of a split in the haredi camp, National Religious Party head Ze'evulun Hammer called for a "supreme effort" to form a united front including all of the religious parties. This, he told the Bnei Akiva executive last night, would avoid a "repeat of past mistakes which would seriously harm our joint interest to preserve the Jewish nature of the state."

Third Way considers fielding a religious Knesset candidate

LIAT COLLINS

THE secretariat of the Third Way last night considered putting a religious candidate in the No. 4 slot on its Knesset list. The party council is scheduled to discuss the proposition next week.

The official reasoning behind the move is to attract Meimad members who consider the National Religious Party too right wing, and to boost support among settlers who agree with the Third Way's line against ceding territory.

The suggestion is seen as an attempt to appease Yehuda Harel, the party's No. 2, who has been considering resigning since last week's elections failed

Hammer to leading rabbis: Tell observant Jews to back a religious party

HERB KEINON

WITH the number of observant MKs from the two major parties declining, National Religious Party leader Ze'evulun Hammer has written the country's leading rabbinic authorities appealing for a call to the faithful to vote only for a haredi or religious party, or for a united religious front, if one materializes.

In a letter to, among others, Rabbis Eliezer Schach, Ovadia Yosef, Shalom Elyashiv, and the Gerrer rebbe, Hammer wrote: "We are asking for a call to all members of our camp to vote only for religious or haredi parties. If it works out and we unite, then this is good; but if not, let us make sure that haredi Jews do not give their vote to anyone but God-fearing representatives."

One NRP official said there are a number of haredim who vote for Likud, and that the appeal is an attempt to ensure they vote for one of the religious parties. There is also concern in the NRP that some people will vote for Binyamin Netanyahu for prime minister, and then feel as if they should vote for the Likud list for the Knesset.

Regarding attempts to form a united religious front, Agudat Yisrael's Council of Sages is sched-

(Continued from Page 1) for his mother, Geula Cohen, but she failed to get a realistic spot. Next were Uzi Landau, Limor Livnat, Michael Eitan, Sylvan Shalom, Ezra, Meir Sheerit, Eliahu Ben-Elissar, Dan Tichon, Naomi Blumenthal, Rivlin, Ovadia Eli, Dov Shilansky, and Yossi Ahimeir.

Shilansky's slot is borderline. Ahimeir is unlikely to make it, as are the other casualties from among the present MKs — David Mena, Gideon Pati, Ya'acov Shamai, Assad Assad, Esther Salmovitz, and Michael Ratzon.

There may be attempts to move Assad up from the 46th slot to assure a Druse representative, as well as to move the new immigrant representative up from 45th. However, this would mean pushing the hard-pressed primary survivors even further down, a move which Netanyahu may find difficult to make.

Salmovitz is one of the Y'ud MKs who left Tsomet. Ratzon had served in the house for only two weeks before the present session recessed. He entered following the death of Ariel Weinstein.

The pollsters, who on Tuesday night gave top billing to Begin and Meridor, also caused temporary letdowns for Rivlin and Eli.

MORDECHAI

whom they predicted had fallen by the wayside. Netanyahu appeared saddened about Eli, for whom he personally lobbied. Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo lamented the fact that "those who betrayed the Likud with David Levy were rewarded, while Rivlin, who stayed loyal despite his close ties to Levy, paid the price."

In the end, however, both ended up in very safe slots. The pollsters also badly misread the scene for weeks before the primaries, as Mordechai pointed out. He was not even included in the top 10 by the polls, "and I told Bibi that just as the polls are wrong about the premiership, so they are wrong about the internal Likud configuration."

Of the regional races, the closest was in the Sharon region, where only today there will be an attempt to rule on whether there is a winner. Olmert received 600 more votes than Landau, who is appealing, claiming that some 500 of his town's residents never got to vote because of a computer malfunction. Landau's complaint will be heard by the primaries committee today.

In Jerusalem, MK Yehoshua

Maiza was returned for another term, as were MK Avraham Herschson in Tel Aviv, MK Ron Nahman in Judea and Samaria, and MK Shaul Amor in the Galilee. New MKs will include Haim David Re'em, Ze'ev Boim from the Negev, Yisrael Katz from the moshav sector, Ashdod Mayor Zvi Zilker for the southern coastal region, and Hod Hersharon Mayor Ezra Binyamini, who won the Dan region seat.

There will be two women on the Likud list: incumbents Limor Livnat, who came in 9th, and Naomi Blumenthal who finished 16th. They will be joined by Nehama Ronen of Tsomet on the joint list.

Ginsburgh ruling today

The Supreme Court is to rule today on the appeal of Rabbi Yitzhak Ginsburgh, put into administrative detention by order of OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Dan Biran.

Ginsburgh, rabbi of the Od Yosef Hai Yeshiva in Nablus, was detained on March 7 for 60 days because of extreme statements he allegedly made against Arabs after the wave of suicide attacks. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Shas kicks off campaign**
Shas opened its election campaign last night with a convention of activists in Jerusalem. Party leader Aryeh Deri emphasized that the new election system, in which separate votes are cast for the Knesset and prime minister, would mean a significant increase in Shas's power.
"Our aim in these elections is to become the country's third largest party," he said. *Itim*
- Tibi's party holds founding convention**
The Arab Movement for Equality, the party headed by Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's adviser, Dr. Ahmed Tibi, held its founding convention yesterday in Taibe, with thousands of participants from the Triangle and throughout Israel.
Tibi called on all Arab parties to unify to create a large political force that would win a large number of Knesset seats.
"They are predicting 3-4 seats for us, but we expect to get 6 or 7," he said.
Representatives of the Islamic Movement, who joined Tibi's party, also attended the gathering. *Itim*

MINISTRY OF FINANCE - Accountant General

Tender No. 7/96: Service, Advice and Planning Services for Cost of Electrical Consumption

Bids are solicited for computerized inspection of electric bills in government ministries and related agencies located throughout Israel, with the exception of the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Internal Security (Police), and the Prison Service.

The successful bidder will inspect electric bills in all of the ministry in question without consideration of his own geographic location. The government ministries need overall and comprehensive services for the inspection of their electric bills and to reduce them to the minimum possible by law. This will be combined with comprehensive advice regarding all economic aspects of the consumption of electricity by the government ministries, and practical recommendations for saving, while standing up to challenging the Electric Corporation to receive monetary credits / refunds.

Preconditions:

- The company bidding employs at least 2 electrical / industrial-management engineers.
- The company has at its disposal at least 2 vehicles.
- The company has experience of at least 3 years in analysis and consumption of electrical expenses in at least 100 facilities requiring TA'UZ throughout the country.
- The company has the capacity to receive data from the Electric Company through means of magnetic media.
- The company has a security classification of at least "restricted."
- The bidder must prove a level of computerization allowing the Accountant General On Line access (inter-computer communication) to produce reports and extract files of those government offices receiving service from the bidder's computer.

The bidders will provide details regarding the manner of the work proposed and details of the professional manpower available, projects carried out in the past, and computer equipment available. The proposed remuneration will be on the basis of a combination of a percentage of the amount successfully saved, plus a fixed monthly fee for all other activities which do not involve reducing the debt bill.

Last date for submitting bids: Wednesday, May 8, 1996, at 12 noon. Bid forms are available from the Tenders and Buying Department, The Accountant General's Office, Room 714 or 715, Ministry of Finance Building, 1 Rehov Kaplan, Jerusalem.

Additional details can be obtained by telephone: 02-317428, 02-317418. No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any other bid.

Israel Airports Authority

Request for Proposals No. P/12/96

For the Supply of Approach Sequenced Flashing Lights SFL-II System for Ben-Gurion Airport Runway

- The Israel Airport Authority hereby invites proposals for the supply of approach flashing light SFL-II system.
- Proposals may be submitted only by suppliers/manufacturers who maintain as follows:
 - Have at least 10 years experience in manufacturing equipment for sequenced approach lighting systems.
 - Maintain a quality control program in accordance with FAA-STD-013 or suitable alternative such as ISO 9000.
 - Have a representative in Israel for handling all contacts with the IAA regarding this RFP.
- Every proposal must be accompanied either by an unconditional bank guarantee drawn upon an Israeli bank in the amount of \$5,000, or a banker's check in said amount.
- Proposal documents may be obtained from the Purchasing Department at Ben-Gurion International Airport, Main Passenger Terminal, Second Floor, Room 234, until April 29, 1996.
- Proposals should be submitted in two copies and placed in the tenders box in: Archives, Israel Airports Authority, Main Office, 2nd Floor, Room 317, Ben-Gurion International Airport, 70100, Israel, no later than May 13, 1996.
- The Israel Airports Authority is not obligated to accept the lowest or any proposal.

Purchasing Department

Israel electric חברת החשמל

During the Intermediate Days of Passover

our offices will be closed, but the current will flow as usual.

The Israel Electric Corporation advises consumers that, during staff holidays at Passover, its offices will be closed to the public - from Wednesday, April 3, to Thursday, April 11, both dates inclusive.

All services necessary for the maintenance of the current supply, and to repair faults, will operate as usual.

We ask consumers to settle their electricity accounts on time.

The Israel Electric Corporation and its Staff wish all the house of Israel HAQ SAMEAH!

EU bans British beef

NEWS AGENCIES
BRUSSELS

should be the paramount considerations," EU Agriculture Commissioner Franz Fischler said.

THE European Union banned British beef exports to the world yesterday, hoping to contain mad cow disease while Britain considers safeguards and tries to salvage its beef market.

He said Europeans were justifiably concerned and that the ban would be lifted once Britain had enforced adequate new safeguards.

"This is contrary to the clear scientific advice that there is no need for any such measure and we shall be taking every possible step to get our trade moving again," a spokesman for Britain's agriculture ministry said.

"We have to restore confidence. We have to restore markets. Those

Both diseases eat away at victims' brains until they die. EU officials insist the Commission has the power to order a worldwide ban, although the British government contends its authority is limited to the trade bloc.

A commission statement said the EU was ready to help the United Kingdom deal with the crisis financially or with technical assistance.

The commission was to consider whether to compensate farmers in Britain's \$6-billion-a-year beef industry for losses as consumer shunned beef.

In Britain, pressure mounted on the government to order slaughter of cattle most likely to carry the illness. That could lead to the destruction of between 800,000 and 4.5 million animals.

The ban would cover export of live cattle and beef as well as products ranging from cosmetics and medicines to ice cream.

Britain has struggled unsuccessfully to eradicate the illness since the disease broke out in British herds a decade ago.

High Court asks Ethiopian representative to resign from Navon Commission

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Navon Commission investigating the Ethiopian immigrant blood affair does not have an alternate to replace Adisu Massala, chairman of the Ethiopian Immigrant Association, who was yesterday asked by the High Court of Justice to consider resigning.

The commission, headed by former president Yitzhak Navon, has met six times over the past six weeks, and expects to present its recommendations to Prime Minister Shimon Peres after Pessah.

Dr. Amnon Ben-David, director of Magen David Adom's blood services, had appealed to the court to force the resignation or dismissal of Massala, who had publicly voiced demands for Ben-David's dismissal because he had approved the decision not to tell Ethiopian blood donors that their blood would be thrown away unused.

IEA conf. moved to Paris

BEN-GURION University scientists were "furious" yesterday over a decision by the International Energy Agency (IEA) to cancel an international scientific conference that was to have been held in Sde Boker and move it to Paris.

Prof. David Feiman, director of the National Center for Solar Energy, said the two-day conference will open today. "Apparently," Feiman said, "that location is safer and more secure than Sde Boker."

The conference had been scheduled a year ago. "I used the occasion to organize a parallel inter-

national conference focusing on electricity production from solar energy. Most participants said they would attend both," he said.

"But a week before the IEA conference was to open, I received a phone call from one group leader, a Frenchman, who said that because of the security situation in Israel and the recent terror attacks, it would be held in Paris."

Feiman said he was asked him if he was aware of the fact that Paris has recently been the victim of more terror attacks than Israel.

"He ignored my question and did not answer." *Judy Siegel*

'Mad-cow' panic overdone

JUDY SIEGEL

THE global panic about "mad cow" disease is probably quite exaggerated, as its human equivalent, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) has struck fewer than a dozen Britons in two years, says molecular biologist Dr. Albert Taraboulos, who has been studying the cause of the disease for years.

"However, the real impact of the disease will really be known in four years or so, when we see how many people die from CJD. If the number of cases grows, it may be an indication that the infected cow feed improperly processed from rejected parts of sheep continued to be used illicitly by British farmers," suggests Taraboulos, of Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School.

Taraboulos, a vegetarian, says if he were a meat eater and visiting England, he would probably avoid eating beef, but that "someone who has had one steak there is at no risk."

About seven years ago, the authorities barred the use of the infectious feed and the sale in butcher shops of cow offal (in which prions are most concentrated). But, says Taraboulos, a monitoring body in Scotland recently reached the conclusion that the latest deaths from CJD involved young people who had eaten infected beef. Until then, most CJD patients were elderly.

The symptoms are similar to those of Alzheimer's, with dementia, muscle wasting, and uncontrolled movements. There is no treatment or cure, not even a simple diagnostic test," he notes.

According to the Health Ministry, English beef has not been imported since 1988, thus there is no danger to Israelis from CJD. On average, 10 Israelis develop CJD each year, most of them of Libyan or Tunisian origin who have a genetic mutation (with no connection to beef consumption).

tious. There is awareness of it after a long period of denial.

He added that of 115 Ethiopian Jews who had immigrated during Operation Solomon and been found at Soroka Hospital to be free of HIV, 10 were later infected in Israel. Elkan added that there was absolutely no truth to claims that MDA refused their blood because of "racism or discrimination, but rather out of an honest intention to supply Israelis with safe blood."

Elkan added that he would like to see Ethiopian blood donations used for research, although Health Minister Ephraim Sneh previously told the commission that such use of high-risk donations is barred by international agreements.

A number of Ethiopian *kessim* complained to the committee about their status, adding that "if we had been allowed to teach and educate the community, such things as AIDS would not have happened."

Syria, Egypt discuss possible nuclear waste leak in Israel

Syrian President Hafez Assad and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak yesterday discussed how to deal with a nuclear emergency, following an ITV report that there is a threat of radioactive leakage from nuclear waste in Israel. They discussed what to do in the event of a "leakage at the Israeli Dimona reactor and its possible consequences," the official Syrian Arab News Agency said. It gave no further details. *AP*

Dole sweeps, Buchanan concedes

WASHINGTON (AP) - Sen. Bob Dole easily won the California, Washington and Nevada primaries to complete a 25-state March sweep that transformed him from teetering to triumphant in the Republican presidential race. "A new America is within our reach," Dole said in celebration.

Both Dole and Buchanan were eager to fo by a campaign calendar that puts Pennsylvania next on April 23.

Buchanan was heading home to



GOP presidential candidate Bob Dole celebrates his California primary victory at a rally in Washington. (Reuters)

Washington to meet today with top advisers to decide his next step. Some supporters want him to

quit the Republican and run as an independent. Dole claimed the 165 delegates in winner-take-all California - by far the biggest single-state prize in the nomination chase - and won all 14 in Nevada as well. He was on pace to pick up 14 of the 18 delegates at stake in Washington. That would give him 1,198 delegates - with 996 needed for nomination. Buchanan was on track 113 by comparison.

With 24 percent of the vote counted, Dole was getting 67 percent in California, to 17 percent for Buchanan. In Washington, with 59 percent of the vote counted, it was 64 percent for Dole, 20 percent for Buchanan.

In Nevada with 100 percent of the vote counted, Dole had 52 percent to 19 percent for Steve Forbes, who quit two weeks ago after the mail-in balloting was under way. Buchanan had 15 percent.

Dole said his top concern was getting back to his duties as majority leader and pushing a crowded Senate agenda. He said he had given no serious thought to picking a running mate, and that while he considered it unlikely, had not ruled out making his choice well before the August Republican convention.

Algeria terrorists kidnap 7 French monks

PARIS (Reuters) - Suspected Moslem extremists abducted seven French Trappist monks from their Algerian monastery during the night, bringing a renewed call by France for its nationals to leave the North African country.

Security forces immediately launched a manhunt for the kidnapers and for the French "religious workers," according to a statement carried by the official news agency APS.

A spokesman for the Catholic diocese in Algiers said by telephone the kidnapers had made no demands so far. "They came during the night and took them," he said.

The security force statement on APS said the monks were snatched from their monastery in the region of Medea, about 70 km south of Algiers in the early hours yesterday.

It blamed the kidnapping on a "criminal group" - Algerian official shorthand for armed Moslem fundamentalists.

Medea is known to be a stronghold of the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), which was responsible for the kidnapping of three French embassy employees in 1993. The GIA later released the French nationals unharmed with a statement ordering all foreigners to leave Algeria or face death.

A source close to the Algerian security forces said by telephone the gunmen gained entry into the monastery by asking to see an 80-year-old doctor, who was among the more than 15 monks residing there.

A locally-produced wine, Trappe de Medea, is named after the Trappist monks. They took seven of the monks and left around 10. We don't yet know if the doctor is among the abducted monks," he said.

The Algerian newspaper *el Watan* reported yesterday that 17 Moslem guerrillas were killed by security forces in the Medea region as part of operations over the weekend in which more than 130 armed Islamists were killed.

The source said the guerrillas were believed to have visited the monastery in the past to ask for medicines and appeared to know it had a doctor.

France yesterday condemned the abduction and reiterated calls for French citizens to leave the North African country.

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The Israel Association for Ethiopian Jews invites you to:

Achim LaDam (Blood Brothers)

A special evening of solidarity with Ethiopian immigrants

Monday 1.4.96 The 12th of Nisan 5756 at 7:00 PM
At the Heichal Hatarbut in Tel-Aviv

Greetings: Mayor Roni Milo
MC: Gila Almagor, Uri Tamiat, Shula Mula

Guest Artists:

Ehud Banai Chaim Moshe Korin Alal Reva LeSheva
Mickey Gavrielov Margalit Sanani Shoshana Damari
Shlomo Gronich and the Sheva Choir Shlomi Shabat

Boaz Sharabi Yaffa Yarkoni Black Natala Band Si Hyman
Ariel Zilber Donna Berger Keshet Be'anani (Ethiopian-Israeli band)

Speakers: Sami Michael (writer)
Rabbi Yizchak Zegai (Rabbi of Ethiopian Community in Rehovot)

Sponsored by: Mayor Roni Milo, Maariv, The Jerusalem Post, The American Jewish Committee, New Israel Fund, Egged, I.U.P.A, NACOEJ Education Project

Artistic Production: Tmira Yardeni

Proceeds will be donated to a special fund dedicated to the health and educational needs of Ethiopian children

Tickets available through Kastel
Free buses provided for groups of 50 or more

For more information call 02-242463, 236439 or 052-673467

Giorgio's Wings fail to take off

FLAIR
GREER FAY CASHMAN

BEFORE Pessah and again before Rosh Hashana, cosmetics importers, department stores and retail chains with the word *Pharm* in their trademarks join forces to induce the public to buy toiletries, make-up and skin-care products.

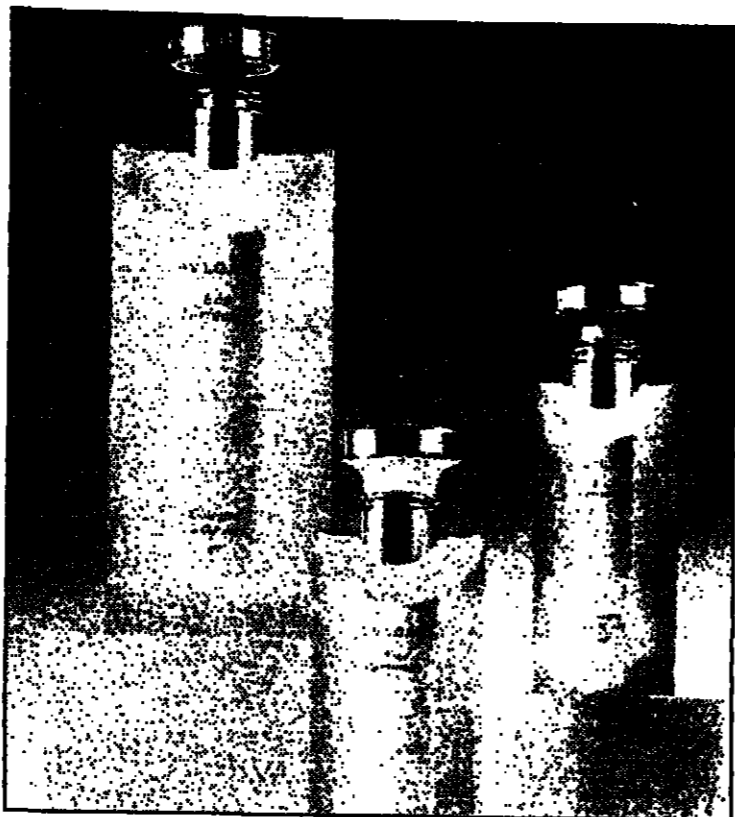
The two main incentives are discounts and bonus gifts for expenditures in excess of NIS 100, NIS 300, etc. While it's great to get discounts of up to 50 percent, the purpose of the exercise is to make you spend more. When a luxury item which was just a little out of your price range becomes temporarily affordable, the temptation to buy two or three or more becomes almost irresistible.

It's worth doing with products which are long-lasting — but only if you've tested them first. Don't take it for granted that an internationally celebrated brand name guarantees that you will fall in love with the product.

A case in point is Giorgio of Beverly Hills. Previous offerings by Giorgio have been exquisitely sensuous and a little on the wild side. But he doesn't make it with Wings, his newest fragrance, which the PR hype describes as "exhilarating," but which to my nostrils smells more like stale flowers in stagnant water. On someone else, it may be great, but it just doesn't go with my body chemistry. It's so disappointingly unGiorgio.

Another bomb is Yardley of London's *Mystique*, which really doesn't live up to its name and is far too alcoholic. It just lacks the genteel refinement which usually characterizes Yardley products.

If YOU thought that tea was only for drinking (or for bathing fatigued eyes), think again. Bvlgari has incorporated Chinese green tea in the bottom note of its new Eau Parfume range of fragrances and toiletries. And believe it or not, a very delicate aroma of Chinese tea does indeed penetrate



Bvlgari has incorporated Chinese green tea in the bottom note of its new Eau Parfume line of fragrances.

through the Egyptian jasmine, Bulgarian roses, Russian coriander, Spanish orange blossom, Italian bergamot and other essences which synthesize to convey a hauntingly oriental scent. It's available in 75-ml. (NIS 229) and 150-ml. (NIS 398) bottles.

An extremely popular product abroad, Rochas's Byzantine Eau de Toilette is now on the Israeli market. A light, flirtatious fragrance, it is sweet without being cloying, with citrus blossoms among the dominants in its formula. A 50-ml. bottle sells for NIS 186, and a 25-ml. bottle for NIS 120.

Nina Ricci Deci-Dela scents have been selling here for quite some time; for those who can't afford them, Deci-Dela perfumed body lotion — retailing at NIS 159 for 150ml. — is a wonderful way to capture the same light, floral bouquet at a much lower cost.

Although most of the splash about unisex perfumes has been made by Calvin Klein, he is not the only fashion designer with a fragrance range that harmoniously caters for him and her in the same bottle. Paco, the new fragrance by Paco Rabane is a pleasant wood and spice blend, which makes its presence felt without being overpowering.

Though advertised as a man's fragrance, Spazio Krizia is much too subtle to be limited to the male of the species. Its formula is made up of juniper berries, thyme, vetiver, labdanum, amber, vanilla, musk, bergamot and cedar, and it is not nearly as tangy as most other products that come under the category of men's toiletries. It is precisely for this reason that it is also suitable for women. Try the spray deodorant for starters. It's only NIS 79 for 150ml.

Direct Insurance has its drawbacks

WHILE cutting costs for the consumer by cutting out the middleman, Direct Insurance has cut corners on customer service.

Those of us quick to criticize insurance agents may not have examined their alternative with as critical an eye. Justifiably enticed by low premiums on home and auto insurance, a growing number of Israeli consumers have been switching to Direct Insurance (DI).

While I personally know two such consumers who regret this particular frugality, the following is a general warning to unwitting victims of DI — those forced into dealing with this up-and-coming company through no fault of their own.

While she was visiting a friend, A.B.'s parked car was backed into by a neighbor. The apologetic "culprit" immediately fessed up, and the usual exchange of relevant data was transacted between smasher and smashee.

The incident couldn't have been more straightforward: the former would inform his insurance company, Direct Insurance Ltd. in Tel Aviv, and the latter would inform her insurance agent in Jerusalem. The vehicle would be put in the garage for repairs.

And so it was. A.B.'s agent prepared the usual documents required in such cases (i.e., appraiser's report, photos of the

damage, etc.), and sent the file to Direct Insurance in Tel Aviv. No acknowledgment from Direct Insurance was received either by A.B. or by her agent.

What A.B. did receive was a set of blank forms from DI. Aware that her agent had taken care of the file, A.B. ignored the forms.

Two months later, A.B. phoned DI to ask about her money. (The phone call itself cost a pretty bundle, as the DI switchboard consists of recorded messages, extended waiting, and pressing of various digits, just to locate a human voice.)

When she finally reached an actual employee, she was told: "We do not deal with insurance agencies. Your file will not even begin to be examined until you personally fill out our forms."

A.B. was outraged. It is bad enough having your car smashed and being without wheels while it undergoes repair.

But to have to chase around an unpleasant bureaucratic maze to retrieve what is rightfully yours, all because another driver happens to be insured by a company who refuses to deal with your agent, is adding insult to injury.

So A.B. did what perhaps she should have done in the first place: She phoned the owner of

the guilty vehicle, and demanded to be sent her money. The owner promptly sent a check to DI, to be passed on to the claimant. Again, neither word nor cash was forthcoming.

Again A.B. was forced to resume her pursuit via several additional intercity phone calls (at peak rates), each met with the same annoying electronic voice messages, extended waiting, and difficulty locating the "right" person at DI.

Finally, A.B. threatened to take DI to the Small Claims Court if her money — plus interest and linkage — wasn't immediately delivered.

Fortunately, the threat induced DI to send A.B. a check. Unfortunately, it did not suffice where the interest and linkage was concerned.

DI ombudswoman Tami Shoshani blames A.B. for the delay: "If she had just filled out our forms, she would have gotten her money a lot sooner. Furthermore, it is against the law for an agent to represent a client in a claim."

Finance Ministry PR officer Aryeh Greenblatt, concurred that an insurance agent cannot legally represent a client. Whether helping a client fill out forms and send

them to a company constitutes "representation" is a question still under its investigation.

According to Greenblatt, the Supervisor of Insurance has received complaints against DI, but they are "no different in content or greater in number than those received against other insurance companies and agencies."

Perhaps, yet, it is no "accident" that Direct Insurance is 20 percent cheaper than most other companies. The absence of agents is only part of the reason.

Unconventionally tight-fisted reimbursement is another factor. Though carefully worded, insurance policies include vast gray areas, which leave room for interpretation and negotiation. Expenses directly or indirectly related to damage or theft, for example, are legitimate "extras"; the extent to which they will be paid to be "hashed out" between a claimant and his insurance company. It is the agents who conduct these negotiations. With Direct Insurance, the client is on his own.

Why a patron of another company should be subjected to similar inconvenience is beyond this consumer's comprehension.

You are invited to offer personal stories about goods and services in this country. Write to: Ruthie Blum, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

America's latest phobia — bad breath

FORGET about fear of dying or fear of making a commitment. What Americans really fear is having bad breath.

That's why Carol Meyer is making a living as a personal breath consultant in New York. For \$125, she offers what she calls a breath makeover, "just like a facial makeover," for people who otherwise could be missing out on good jobs, promotions or relationships.

One patient was a top telecommunications executive who had grown so terrified of having bad breath that he stopped delivering the speeches that were integral to his job.

"He insisted the room smelled like his breath and that he saw people sniffing," Meyer said. "People start to develop a phobia."

Some of Meyer's patients are so mortified they refuse to give their names when they make an appointment. Others telephone her, puzzled, because her phone number was left anonymously on their desks.

"You'll hear people say 'I used to be a drug addict' before they'll say 'I used to have bad breath,'" said Meyer, who practices as much psychology as dental hygiene in her work.

The vast majority of her patients are financial traders and brokers who work on Wall Street, which she calls a bastion of bad breath.

"They're stockbrokers on the floor, yelling and screaming all day long. They don't have time to eat. They don't have time to brush," she said. "At the end of the day, they have a problem with their breath."

The cause can be bacteria, faulty dental work, a head cold, diabetes, coffee, heart disease, antibiotics, hormonal changes, gum disease, stress or even tonsils. The treatment is usually simple — regular use of a tongue scraper or a bacteria-killing toothpaste and rinse.

Meyer tries to tailor her treatments to her patients' harried lifestyles, advising them to "at

least take some toothpaste and stick it under your tongue and squish it around.

"Everybody's looking for a quick, efficient fix," she said.

A dental hygienist for 22 years, Meyer launched her personal breath consultancy last year. She does not advertise but relies on, yes, word of mouth.

When she tells people what she does, they laugh. "Then they say, 'I know somebody who needs you,'" she says.

She uses two instruments to make her diagnoses — a gas sensor and a computerized gum thermometer. The sensor detects sulphur compounds, a by-product of bacteria in the mouth.

She cannot do everything, she said, recalling a request, which she declined, to visit a Wall Street office and tell an employee about his breath problem.

But gift certificates are available. (Reuters)

Refrigerators these days: They can do everything but make coffee

IF the refrigerator wheezing away in the corner of your kitchen is on the verge of a meltdown and you're planning to replace it, buying a new one might not be the same experience as you remember.

According to appliance-industry figures, fridges — which have always been the hardest-working appliances in the home — are replaced, on average, every 10 to 15 years. Now technological advances are enabling fridges to do more and more.

If you think the automatic ice-cube maker in your current fridge ranks right up there with the wheel, then what about an ice maker that lets you choose the consistency of that ice — from crushed to cube — with the turn of a knob? Through-the-door water dispensers are not new. What is new, though, are dispensers with integral filters designed to skim lead, chlorine and other impurities out of the water that goes into a glass or an ice tray to make it clearer and better-tasting.

Then there are electronic controls that monitor cold-air supplies to different areas of the fridge to maintain optimum temperatures for the contents; and shelves that can be raised to provide "headroom" for tall bottles and can slide out for easy access to items stored in the back.

All the enhancements, industry sources say, are in response to the renewed popularity of the kitchen as a center of contemporary family life. "Because families

are spending more time in the kitchen, appliances have become the design focal point, and consumers want their appliances to look good and expect them to

perform even better," says Fred Turner, vice president of sales for the Frigidaire Co. in Dublin, Ohio.

Many new models are shallower than

older fridges. While this might sacrifice the capacity to fit flush with adjoining cabinets, it gives them a built-in look.

While the top-mount freezer accounts

for 75 percent of fridge sales in the US, according to industry estimates, Amana Refrigeration Inc. of Amama, Iowa, has reintroduced the bottom-mount freezer.

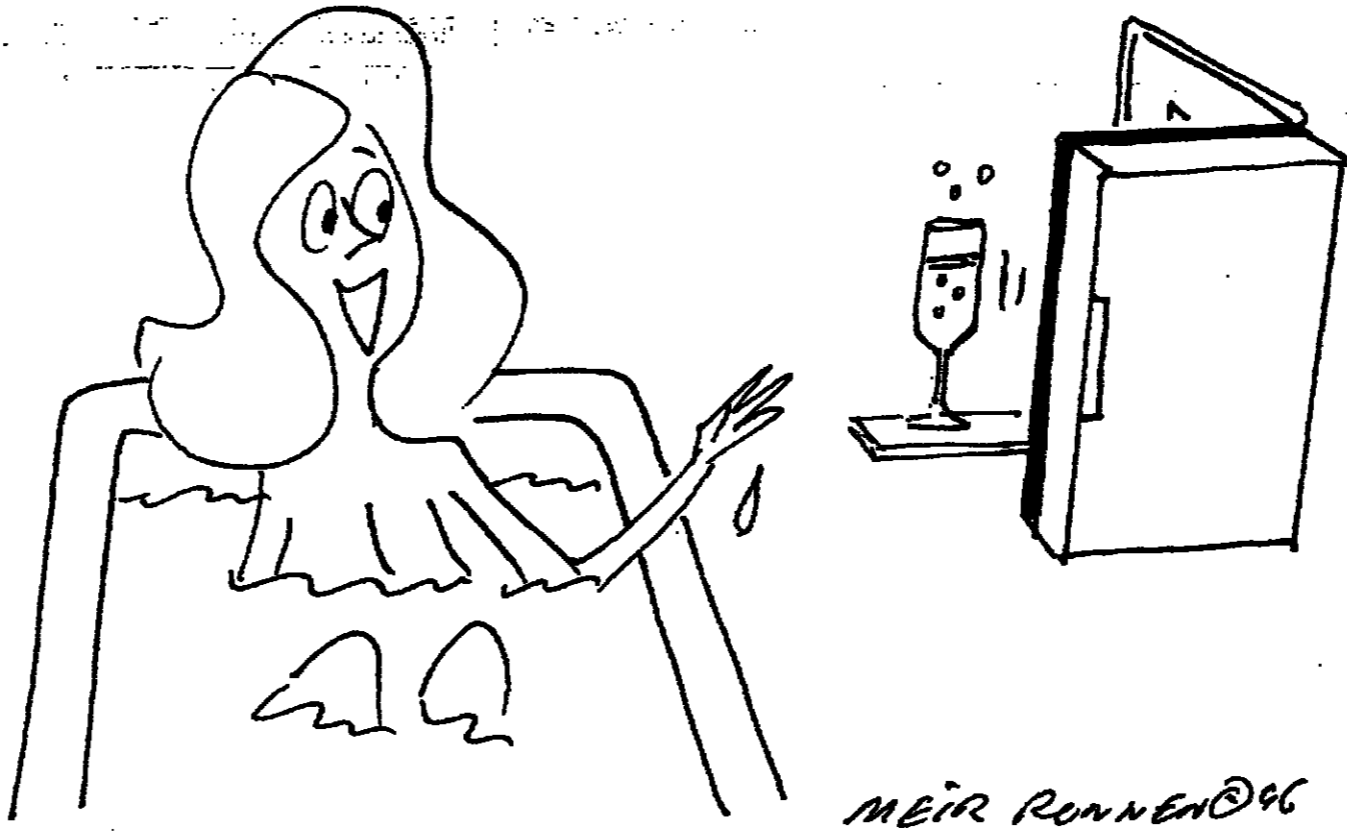
YOU WANT chilled wine or champagne at your fingertips as you seek in a soothing bath? Or a beverage and a snack in the living room so you don't have to leave during a crucial moment in a TV movie? Or, for that matter, why not have a fridge anywhere you feel like having one?

Sub-Zero Freezer Co. Inc. of Madison, Wisconsin, last year introduced a line of compact units that can stand alone or be combined to provide discreet and stylish refrigeration in any room of the house.

The line consists of a tall cabinet unit and a two-drawer base unit. Each comes either as a freezer or a fridge, allowing mixing and matching to create all-fridge, all-freezer or combination units.

The bases fit under kitchen counters and center islands, and the fridge version has two separate temperature zones. The tall fridge combination has three individual temperature zones that are controlled electronically.

Marvel Industries of Richmond, Virginia, is another manufacturer of compact fridges that can be dispersed around the house. One of the more interesting features in its product line is the "wine grotto," a compact, under-the-counter wine cellar. The slide-out racks hold up to 50 bottles which are kept at the proper temperature and humidity. The wine grotto can be mixed with the company's other modular units to create a variety of cool combinations. (Newsday)



MEIR RONEN © 96

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LEATHER JACKET - men's, new, NIS 300, 03-6729924.

DOUBLE BED - wood frame, storage underneath, 2 single mattresses, NIS 300, 06-580563, NS.

CHILDREN'S TABLE - with 4 chairs, Keter, NI 100, 06-368472.

BOOKCASE - bamboo, 5 shelves, NIS 50, 02-789712, NS.

2 LARGE SINK DRAINERS - kosher for Pessah, meat/milk, free, 02-815921, NS.

COTTON HOUSECOAT - for tall, slim person, floral, new, NIS 140; Laura Ashley cotton dress, new, NIS 160, 02-351975, NS.

BRAUN SHAVER - new in box, NIS 140; women's classic Reeboks, white, leather, new and unworn, NIS 160, 02-433068.

BREAKFRONT - low, 1.20 m, sliding glass doors, brown, NIS 300, 02-825874.

CLOTHES CUPBOARD - 10 doors, light color, 270 x 240 x 60, NIS 300, 02-6519918.

APPLE PRINTER - dot matrix, FREE, 02-253364, NS.

3 WOODEN CHAIRS - NIS 168; large shelf for corner, 80x60x28, NIS 38; 10 classical music LPs, NIS 78; Kenwood can opener, NIS 28, 02-617257, NS.

BMX 2-WHEEL BIKE - 23 in. wheel, good condition, NIS 200 o.b.o., 02-9931810, NS.

SUITCASE - 80x60x22, excellent condition, NIS 100, 02-791242.

2 AMERICAN COMFORTERS - warm, polyester fill, twin size, new, NIS 100 each, 02-666448.

DOLL'S BED - big, wooden, NIS 40; cheese board (new), NIS 15; big "grandma" kettle, NIS 90; 4 mugs, NIS 10; blackboard, NIS 20, 02-865839, NS.

METZ JET GAS 2000 - oven and range in good condition, NIS 300, 02-859196, NS.

SCHLESINGER HAGGADA - Vienna 1929, NIS 150; Haggada with Machzor Vizi and Shibolei Haleket, 1878, needs binding, NIS 150, 02-86502.

GIRLS' BICYCLE - in good condition, NIS 175, 02-618824, eves., NS.

GLASS COFFEE TABLE - 3 ft. round with modern metal base, excellent condition, NIS 300, 02-850794, NS.

OFFICE CHAIR - adjustable, padded, NIS 100; Sears exercise stationary bicycle, NIS 150; fish tank, 50 x 28 cm., and paraphernalia, NIS 50, 02-414684, NS.

VENT VERT EAU DE TOILETTE - 100 ml., Pierre Balmain, NIS 150; Activity Center, Fisher-Price, NIS 50; Peruvian folkloric articles, baby wool hat, NIS 20; metal plate, NIS 20; leather purse, NIS 60, 02-6521349.

CORDLESS PANASONIC PHONE - NIS 300, 02-817953.

PHILIPS MICROWAVE - missing turntable but works fine, NIS 150; ironing board, NIS 30, 02-710067.

READER'S DIGEST - 02-416587, NS.

10-SPEED MEN'S BICYCLE - NIS 300, 02-790405.

CURTAINS - wall-to-wall, floor to ceiling, NIS 175; silk lampshade, milk detergent for lactose intolerant, free, 02-666230.

BOX SPRING - and mattress set, American made, very good condition, NIS 275, 02-823875, NS.

CARPET - beige, for living room, NIS 300, 02-760838.

5 DRESSES - long sleeves, from England, size 44 (16), NIS 60 each, 02-6534179, NS.

MUSIC STAND - metal, folding, with foot supporter, like new, NIS 100, 02-816755, NS.

3 BAGS FABRIC - large pieces, good for crafts not clothing, FREE. You must pick up, 02-810049.

HERTZ SONCINO HUMASH - with commentary, NIS 80; old Haggada, NIS 70, 02-6513741.

TORAH SCHOLAR - computer software, new in box, NIS 250, 02-6521788.

PAIR OF KEYS - US 8, absolutely new, white with decoration, NIS 150, 02-301446.

BROWN TABLE LAMP - wood, NIS 75; red/white table lamp, NIS 25; assorted ladies' shoes, size US 6, the lot for NIS 25; Copen 12-jar spice rack, new, NIS 90, 02-6518754.

MACLAREN DOUBLE STROLLER - NIS 300, 02-6521788.

FLOOR FAN - Toshiba, rotating, 4 settings, NIS 90 o.b.o.; mattress, 80x190x14, firm, never used, NIS 210, 02-664431.

COMPUTER BOOKS - ODBC, SQL, Graphics, File Formats, NIS 40 each, 050-553191, NS.

VIDEO BETA - NIS 300, 02-450081.

KNITTING MACHINE - Singer, almost new, original packaging, NIS 300, 02-273612, NS.

5 WHITE MELAMINE SHELVES - 100 x 100 cm each, NIS 125 for the lot (some slightly nicked), 02-253364, NS.

CRYSTAL WINE BOTTLE - NIS 100; 3 shelves, NIS 70; 2 bedspreads, NIS 75; Oster glasspot, NIS 70, 02-6519680, NS, eves.

CHINA DISHES - set, non-kosher, NIS 175; halogen floor lamp, NIS 100, 02-287045, NS.

DINING ROOM TABLE - walnut wood with formica finish, leaves on each side, 150 x 100 cm open, 150 x 60 closed, excellent condition, NIS 300, 02-619908, NS and not after 10 p.m.

COMPUTER PRINTER - NIS 300, 02-860113.

FOR WOOD LOVERS - black walnut and pine, boards and shelving, running foot NIS 1/NIS 100; 4" slice olive tree trunk, NIS 60, 02-250762.

FOLDING STROLLER - push-chair for 3-year-old, reasonable price, 09-902458.

SAFE - office furniture, Jewish books in English or Russian, needed by ASCENT non-profit outreach organization, will pay reasonable prices, 06-921364.

RECLINER - for elderly visitor, good condition, any color, 02-363190.

GUITAR CASE - for old-fashioned guitar, for 9 1/2-year-old student, 02-353018.

RUSSIAN GRAMMA TV - B/W or color, inexpensive, 02-669702.

OLD WRISTWATCHES - hobbyist watchmaker will purchase forgotten mechanical watches, gold/silver, Hamilton, Elgin, other, any condition, 02-758389/634129.

SHARE TAXI - from Baka to central bus station: Sun, Tues., Wed., and Thurs. mornings, 7 am, 02-733836.

ELECTRIC KEYBOARD/ORGAN - Yamaha 215 or similar or better model, Avery, 02-6521988, NS.

TIBERIAS - April 7. Can someone give me a lift? 02-828365.

NINJA TURTLES - and/or Ninja turtle paraphernalia for my grandchildren, Alice, 02-721548, NS.

COUCH - in good condition which opens into double bed, inexpensive (matching pieces if available), 02-861207, NS.

COMPUTERS AND CALCULATORS - old, vintage and unused, any condition, 02-860113.

BIGGER CAGE - for budgies with cramped wings, to buy, 02-436372.

OLD AND ANTIQUE BOOKS - 02-823788.

USED ENCYCLOPEDIA - Word Book or Britannica, from 1985 up, 02-6528626.

FURNITURE - for Russian ghetto, will collect. Keren Kline, 02-788277, 09-902458.

COMPUTERS AND PRINTERS - needed for Yad Sarah's computer project for homebound people. Please phone Lily, 02-244242, 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

SUITABLE READING BOOKS - in English for yeshiva high school library. All levels needed. We will pick up. Eryna, 02-9973846; Toba, 02-9973202.

STOREROOM FOR OLIM - appliances, household goods (pots, pans, dishes, etc.), old furniture, etc., Sun, Thurs., 10 a.m. 4 p.m.; Fri., 10 a.m. - 9p.m. 24 Ha'uman St., Talpiot, 02-796848.

PETS

FEMALE PUPPY - small, black, short hair, happy, frisky, loving, healthy, friendly to all. Free to good home, 02-283521, NS.

PART COLLIE - beautiful, 8 months old, free to loving home, 02-785735.

\$500 REWARD - for finding large 4-year-old grey striped cat, big green eyes, white stomach, acknowledges name Julie, male, had blue collar, lost February in Neveh Ya'acov, Jerusalem, 050-395770.

Sorry, no listings accepted without a coupon

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BARGAIN BASEMENT accepts ads of up to 20 words free of charge on these conditions: Only one ad per household per week. THE LIMIT per ad in the "offers" section is a TOTAL of NIS 300, and the price of each item must be stated in brackets. The following ads are NOT accepted: business offers, apartment sales, rentals or exchanges; car sales; job offers; situations wanted; solicitations for donations; offers of marriage or other personal relationship. Ads must be printed in English and submitted on the attached coupon. ADS MAY NOT BE SUBMITTED BY PHONE OR FAX. The right to reject or edit any ad is reserved.

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Statistics to ponder

As democratic societies have discovered the hard way, it is virtually impossible to combat organized terror groups while safeguarding the civil rights of their members. Constitutional provisions against incarceration without trial, prolonged interrogation without the presence of counsel, or the use of "moderate physical pressure" during interrogations are incompatible with an effective battle against dedicated fanatics fighting for a cause.

Since the first duty of a government is to ensure the safety of its citizens, it must sooner or later conclude that fighting terrorism is no different from waging any other kind of war. As in war, it must suspend civil liberties whenever they impede the war effort.

This is essentially the argument the General Security Service has presented to the High Court against the appeal of Hamas operative Ziad Gazal, who is demanding that no physical pressure be applied against him during his interrogation.

In an effort to convince the judges of the need for such pressure (strictly limited to measures approved by the Landau Commission), the GSS has told the courts that as a result of similar interrogations it has, this year alone, managed

to foil: seven suicide bombings, five attempts to enter Israel with explosives-laden cars, 10 kidnappings of soldiers and civilians, seven murders, several assaults with firearms, an attempt to hijack a bus, various attempts to lay explosive charges, and other terrorist attacks.

Perhaps even more than the tragic consequences of the bus bombings three and four weeks ago, these statistics must give Israelis pause. They mean that there is a relentless terrorist war being waged against Israel, and that only the courage, vigilance and proficiency of the security services have prevented enormous casualties.

In assessing the Oslo process, the fact of this war must be taken into account, regardless of how many casualties the terrorists manage to inflict. The country cannot forever depend on the security services to prevent disaster, if for no other reason than that no such service can have a flawless record.

To "declare war" on Hamas only when tragedy strikes and bodies are strewn on the street, instead of drawing appropriate conclusions from the Palestinian Authority's inability or unwillingness to effectively combat the terrorists is to gamble with innocent lives.

The people know best

THE first thing which comes to mind on reading the results of the primary elections in the major political parties is a witticism by one of Israel's leading journalists, Nahum Barnea. Israelis are a strange people, he said. They tell the truth to pollsters, but when they get into that voting booth, they lie.

The first political lesson to be learned from the primaries is that opinion polls in Israel are unreliable and misleading. Not one of the polling organizations came close to predicting the winners of the respective top spots in the primary sweepstakes. Neither Labor's old hand, Tourism Minister Uzi Baram, nor Likud newcomer Maj.-Gen. (res.) Yitzhak Mordechai was expected to be among the leading candidates in their parties, let alone on top of the heap. Nor did they do any better in forecasting the standings of other candidates.

In fact, the pollsters - not unlike canny astrologers - did little more than affirm the conventional wisdom. That such wisdom can be defied and turned on its head by the voters is one of democracy's great attractions. One should like to hope that politicians will now realize not only that it is unwise to rely on projections and forecasts, but that it is foolhardy to assume that polls reflect the will of the people. To adjust policies to accord with responses to the pollsters' cleverly formulated questions is plainly irresponsible.

It is both tempting and easy to deride the primary system, and the litany of its alleged faults is long. It is costly and wasteful; it favors the rich or those who have access to the rich; it encourages attention-getting gimmicks rather than serious discussion of the issues; it gives the media untoward, disproportional power; it is an open invitation to special-interest lobbies; and it turns political contests into beauty pageants, in which looks and telegenics count more than talent and experience.

All this may be true, but such charges can easily be made against democratic elections in general. Primaries simply extend the democratic system to cover all stages of the election process by letting the rank-and-file rather than committees in "smoke-filled rooms" determine who the party candidates will be. And if the results are any indication, lowly party members are at least as astute and savvy as a nominating committee.

No ideological conclusions can be drawn from the party choices. The membership obviously wanted, above all else, to field a winning team. This is probably why Labor voters seem partial to retired generals, who are expected to balance the super-dovish image of the party leader, Prime Minister Shimon Peres. And while the Likud is now trying to project a peacemaker image, voters - reflecting the general concern with security - have placed Mordechai and Ariel Sharon on top of the list.

There are, to be sure, inevitable disappointments. The primary system has its own built-in injustices and inequalities, and some deserving men and women have been left out in favor of less impressive candidates. Disappointing, too, is the small number of women on both lists and the complete absence of Druse and Arabs in "realistic" slots on the Likud list.

To solve this kind of problem by "affirmative action," as Labor has done, is to introduce a noxious quota system. The only salutary solution is to encourage the participation of women and minorities in all levels of political life.

Finally, the electorate must be congratulated for its independence and rationality. Voters mostly paid no heed to "deals" and suggested lists, they were not swayed by expensive gimmicks, nor did they blindly follow suggestions of local leaders. What they did do is prove yet again that, for all their glaring shortcomings, the people know best.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PALESTINIAN INTELLECTUALS

Sir, - We, a group of Palestinian intellectuals, have witnessed the events of violence and killings of the last few days with feelings of outrage and disgust. We reject any attempt to impose upon the Palestinian people a bloody and violent agenda, which goes totally against the efforts and aspirations of our people to live in freedom, peace and security.

We condemn without reservation any violent actions aimed at innocent people. We do not consider such acts in any way justifiable.

We regard the peace process as being too serious to be handled solely by the military. We caution against resorting to the same old policies and repulsive methods which have resulted in the prevalence of hatred and animosity. We caution against measures of collective punishment taken out of

desire for retaliation. We call upon the government of Mr. Shimon Peres and the Israeli people to act rationally without attempting to comply or compete with the frantic calls of the extreme right.

We believe that the proper steps towards the eradication of the roots of the violence and counter-violence can only be based on the affirmation of the right of both Palestinians and Israelis to freedom and independence. These steps should concentrate on the mutual interests of the two peoples, through the achievement of just peace.

ABBAS SHIBLAK (academic)
HANAN ASHRAWI (academic and critic)
SULEJMAN MANSOUR (artist)
BASSAM OTHMAN (journalist)
And 47 other
Palestinian intellectuals
Ramallah.

POLLS

Sir, - In your issue of March 8, I read with interest your front-page headline claiming "Polls give Netanyahu slight lead." In your report, you give readers information about the latest election polls, quoting Yehudit Aharonov's Mina Tzema, the Smith poll and the Ma'ariv Gallup poll. About the latter, you state that "a Gallup poll to appear today in Ma'ariv shows Netanyahu ahead by 2%."

Your information about Ma'ariv's Gallup poll of March 8 is incorrect. In fact, the opposite is the case. In the Ma'ariv that I read, Peres gets 46%, and Netanyahu 40% with the

Ma'ariv front-page headline reading "Poll taken yesterday: The advantage for the race for prime minister returns to Peres."

Is it still possible to get good, accurate, objective reporting from The Jerusalem Post?
DR. STANLEY RABINOWITZ
Ra'anana.

The results published in The Jerusalem Post were of an earlier poll taken by Ma'ariv. Those published in Ma'ariv were of a poll taken late Thursday night, to which The Jerusalem Post had no access before deadline. The Post regrets the error.
- Ed. J.P.

ARAFAT AND HAMAS

Sir, - I come to Israel several times a year to visit my daughter and her family and I am appalled by what I have seen happening here over the last few years. The terrorist atrocities are certainly bad enough, but what makes them worse is the government's response (or lack of it) to the succession of these heinous attacks. How many times must someone tell you, by words and by deeds, that he is out to kill you before you start taking him seriously?

It has become quite apparent that Arafat and Hamas are two sides of the same coin. Hamas, by its actions, makes it clear that its intention is the destruction of the State of Israel. Arafat, by his words to his own people and his dedication of the "Engineer" and the suicide bombers, also makes it obvious that the "peace process" is only the first step in the same direction.

I was always supportive of the decision of my daughter and son-in-law to make aliyah some six years ago, but now, in light of the government's unwillingness to take the necessary steps to safeguard its citizens, I am starting to have doubts that their decision was a correct one.
JACK BALSAM
Oceanside, New York.

CREEP

Sir, - Why do you always print a picture of this terrible creep, Yigal Amir, with his terrible grin? Is it not enough that you write about him? Do you want to turn him into a celebrity?
Haifa.
E. STEINER-COHEN



Nightmare in Sharm

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

EVEN the most dedicated Foreign Ministry supporters of Shimon Peres's New Middle East, that place where Hamas chiefs walk hand in hand with Jewish settlers, were outraged.

What had provoked their anger? A suggestion by Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Mousa in February that some junior diplomats pay a courtesy call in Jerusalem.

At first, what joy in Foreign Ministry hearts! The hostile Mousa unthaws!

Amid immense enthusiasm, details of a suggested itinerary were dispatched to Cairo. Back came the acceptance, with one omission. A tour of Yad Vashem was crossed out.

This wasn't the first such snub from Mousa. On a visit of his own some time before, he had declined to set foot in Yad Vashem. Only after pressure from Peres did he grudgingly agree to spend a minute or two at the Children's Memorial.

It wasn't that Mousa cared more about Jewish children than he did about adults; but an Egyptian official had told him that he could "walk fast through the children's section and be out in a minute or two." It was also very dark there, and "difficult to see anybody inside the building."

On that occasion, the Foreign Ministry chiefs swallowed their pride and accepted Mousa's compromise. But this time, they declined to be humiliated. The bottom line: no Yad Vashem, no visit.

Mousa didn't want to disappoint his young diplomats. Okay, he said, "I'll permit my boys to visit the children's place on condition that they be allowed to pay an official call to 'faissal Hussein at Orient House.'"

At this, the Foreign Ministry balked. The memory of a million murdered Jewish children being trivialized by such an equation was too much even for the ministry's mandarins (who also feared that publication of the demeaning incident would deal a further blow to Egypt's image as peace-lover so assiduously promoted by our prime minister).

Egyptians and Israelis alike are aware of the mutual benefits of peace. But there can be no illusions about the Mubarak administration's real feelings toward its Jewish neighbors.

Accordingly, our Foreign Ministry rejected the Egyptian "package," and the visit never took place.

Earlier this month, as world leaders flew off home after the Sharm el-Sheikh anti-terror meet (Peres in style aboard President Clinton's jet), the 250 or so Israeli and for-

asleep on the floor. We've been trapped here by Egyptian malice. Since we cannot escape, we're about to start drilling for water and intend to set up a West-Bank-style settlement here at the airport. By the way, do you know what this will do to your prime minister's peace process?

What followed was prompt intervention by the ambassador, and a slow and surly Egyptian reaction. Dawn was breaking by the time the Arkia plane finally got permission to load up some very weary journalists and return to Israel.

A few days later Ma'ariv reported that Mousa had personally ordered the "isolation" of newspapermen at the deserted airport in revenge for the time he crossed the Sinai and was prevented from meeting Yasser Arafat to coordinate policies.

In tandem with Osama el-Baz, Mubarak's front man who verbally humiliates Israel in occasionally purring diplomatic language, Mousa works ceaselessly to demean the Jewish state.

The kind of insult meted out to those Israeli journalists is reproduced at Cairo Airport. It isn't any coincidence that El Al planes sneak in and out of Cairo in darkness, like thieves in the night. Nobody must see them. El Al has even been discouraged from carrying the Star of David emblem on its aircraft.

El-Baz once attempted to explain this abhorrence of all things Jewish. He told newspapermen smoothly: "To have the Israeli flag [lying] over a building in Damascus [or any other Arab capital] is a problem. It causes the man in the street to suffer a shock, a culture shock."

With reactions like these 18 years after the declaration of peace with Israel, one wonders how anyone can still harbor any illusions about Egyptian sincerity. One need hardly detail the way Egyptian forces, armed to the teeth, carry out periodic complex military exercises in crossing the Suez Canal via the vast tunnels that have been built there.

Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Hizbullah are waging all-out terrorist war against Israel, and Arafat's control of areas of the country is growing.

And Amr Mousa and Osama el-Baz? Their aim is to weaken Israel politically.

It must be clear that the country is facing a dangerous Egyptian-orchestrated attack aimed at its eventual extinction.

A few days before the second and third readings of the bill, Shohat tabled a "small" amendment to the law calling for the omission of all categories of benefits to which it would apply. This would have emptied the law of all content.

Shohat's actions have always confirmed that the interests he represents are far removed from those of working people, especially working women. As part of his consistent yielding to pressure from employers, he recently prevented the second and third readings of the amendment to the minimum salary law.

Shohat and the prime minister represent the interests of the economic right better than the Likud does. This being the runup to elections, voters, especially women voters, ought to know who is working for them and who against them.

There is no party in Israel today working for social equality, let alone women's equality. If women fought for equal rights - equal employment rights being the most important - the way social movements here did at the beginning of the century, such a party might now exist.

Perhaps then we would have a women finance minister representing the interests of a large population now deprived of proper pay and working conditions, instead of one who cares about the interests of wealthy employers.

The writer lectures on sociology and anthropology at Beit Baril College in Nfar Sava.

Working it out

ESTHER HERTZOG

THE government, seemingly against its will, gave women - and their families - the gift of the decade, recently when the law mandating equal pay in the workplace passed its second and third readings.

The new law corrects the most glaring discrimination in remuneration, addressing not only the imbalance in salaries, but the many benefits unevenly granted to men and women at work.

It lays down that a man and women employed by the same employer at the same place of work are entitled to equal salaries for essentially similar or equivalent work. The ruling will also apply to "any other payment made by an employer to or on behalf of an employee related to his employment."

For the purposes of this law, the term "other payment" will include any supplement, benefit, allowance, grant, ancillary conditions, or payment of expenses.

It includes car allowance, telephone use, overtime, purchase of professional literature, clothing allowance, car use, "and any other payment, either monetary or of monetary value, directly or indirectly, even if not part of the employee's salary."

BACK IN the early 1980s, economist and employment expert Dr. Linda Efroni found that the imbalance in earnings between men and women employed in the public sector could - differences in position, scale, experience and scope apart - be accounted for by an unequal allocation of benefits. Women are particularly discriminated against as regards car allowance and overtime.

Efroni persisted stubbornly in researching the subject, publishing her findings and struggling for a change in the law in the face of severe criticism - even from activists in women's organizations and in university circles, where her findings met with simple disbelief.

Despite proven inequalities in salaries and benefits between men and women, some women activists couldn't bring themselves to recognize the glaring injustice that existed.

Efroni pointed to the fact that inequality in pay was growing rather than diminishing. At the beginning of the 1980s the difference between men and women employed in the public sector was 22 percent; by the end of the decade it had reached 28 percent. By the beginning of the 1990s it had risen to 32 percent.

Today there are many employers in the public and private sectors who pay their male employees 50 percent or more above what their female employees earn for comparable work.

Throughout the decade-long

Women have been reluctant to believe the extent of wage discrimination against them

struggle to change the law, Finance Minister Shohat maintained uncompromising opposition to the vital amendment listing the salary elements to which the principle of equality should apply.

A few days before the second and third readings of the bill, Shohat tabled a "small" amendment to the law calling for the omission of all categories of benefits to which it would apply. This would have emptied the law of all content.

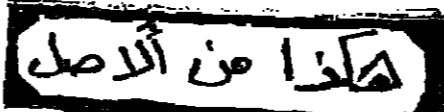
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The writer lectures on sociology and anthropology at Beit Baril College in Nfar Sava.

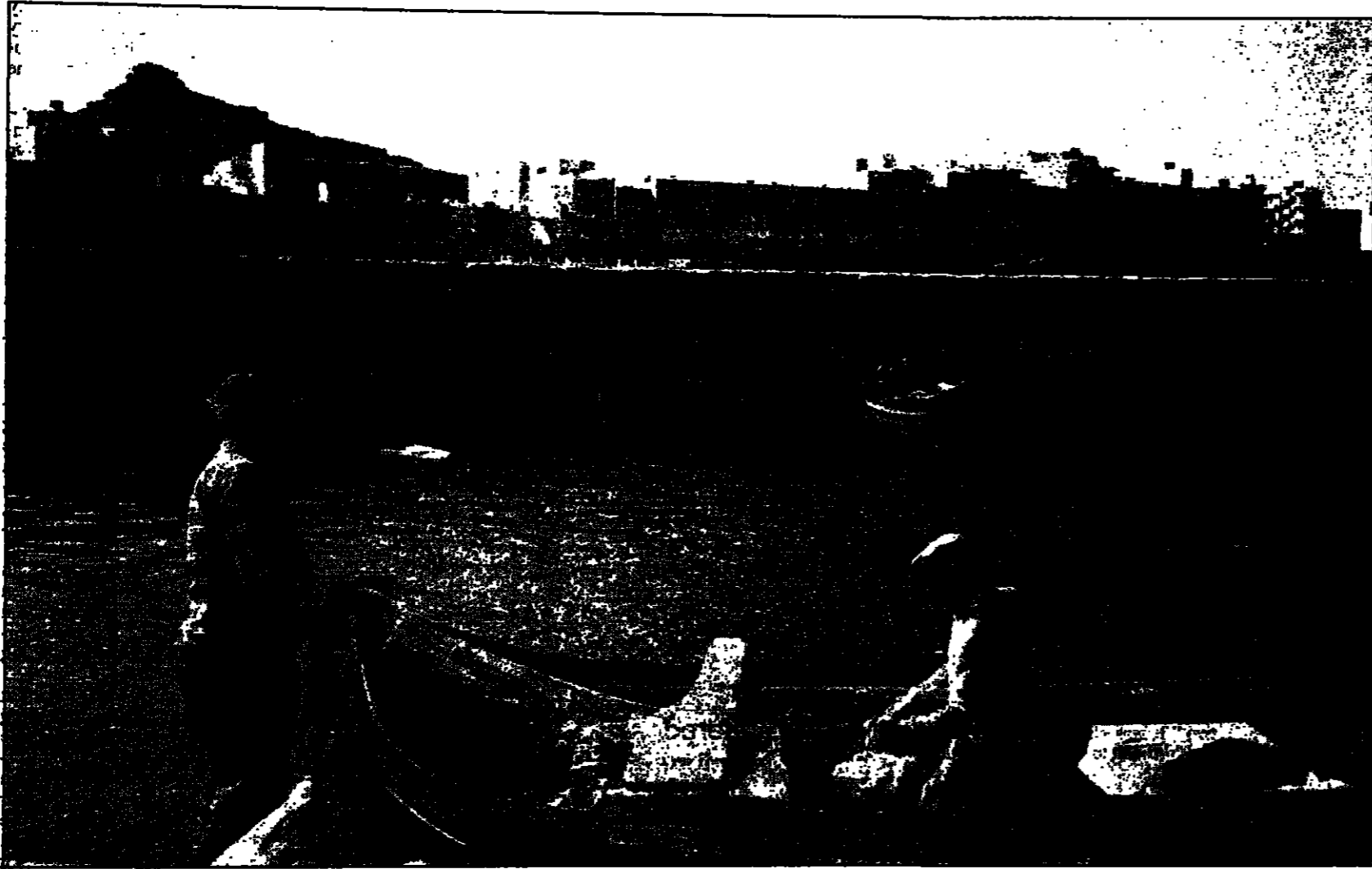


The Jerusalem Post
Working it out
ESTHER HERZOG

THE JERUSALEM POST

TRAVELLER

THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1996



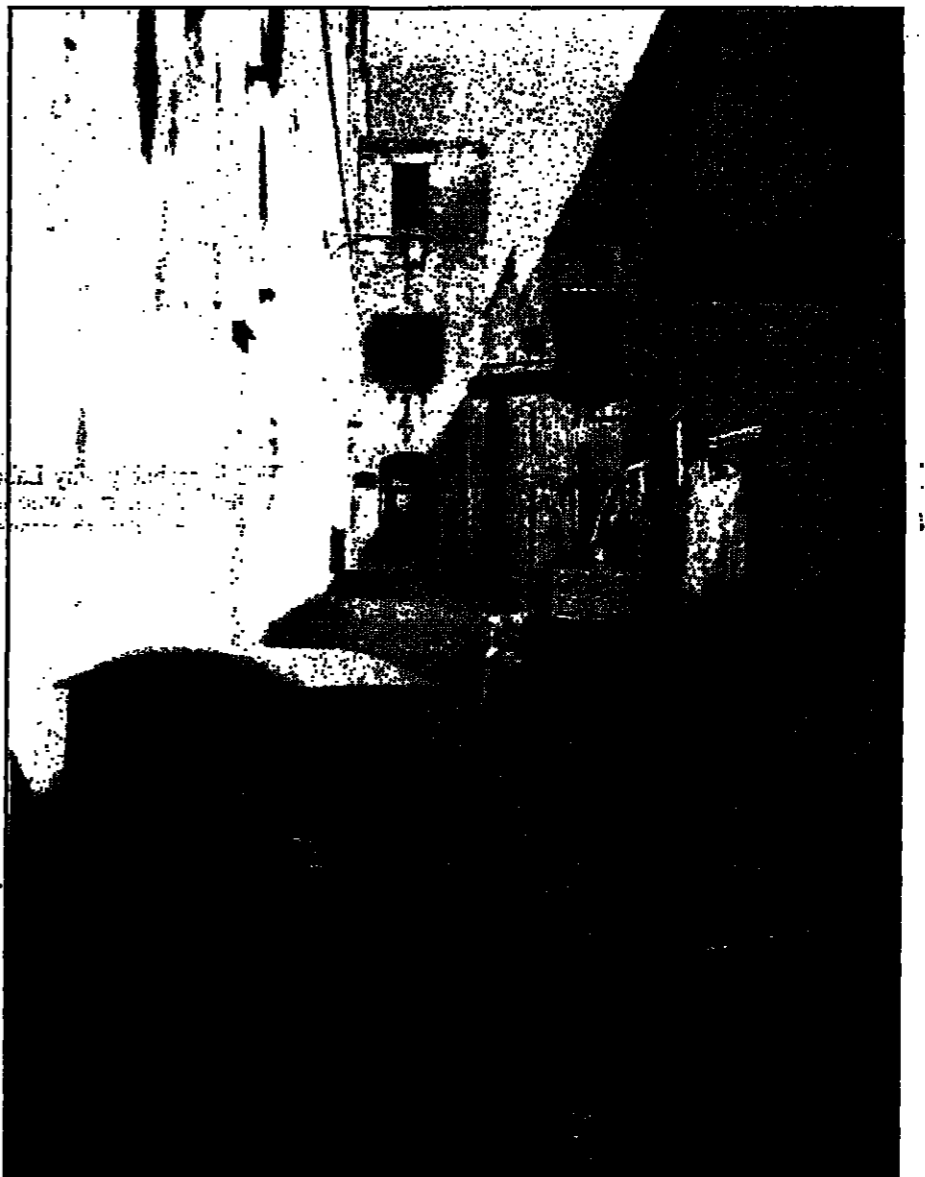
Above: Fishermen fold their nets on brightly painted boats—or "Luzzu."

Far right: A charming passage—Citta Delta, in Gozo's "Old City," Malta.

Right: A vendor sells fish in the bustling Independence Square in Victoria—Gozo, Malta.



MALTA



History's Golden Crossroad

By Dorothy Storck

I first saw the Grand Harbour of Valletta a decade ago from the deck of a ship, just after dawn.

We were two days out of North Africa, sailing in gray seas. Tunisia lay behind us with its white wind and dusty palms, vaguely menacing, like a dream without color.

Somehow this island nation has managed to take bits from 5000 years of cross currents, invasions, and rude awakenings and turn it all into a mosaic of beauty and zest.

Malta, rising suddenly off the bow, made me reach for a sun shade. The harbor is a hit to the senses: Colonades the color of creme caramel, white yachts on azure water, steel tankers and crimson pilot boats. High over the fortified walls the spires of a Renaissance cathedral gleam with gold.

Out of an empty ocean comes this cosmos of bustle and beauty and business at hand—a magic harbor. Ulysses, it is written, lingered here for seven years, a willing captive in

Calypso's cave while Penelope knitted back home in Ithaca. One can understand.

That day, 10 years ago we sailed on. Last year, in early spring, I finally came back. "Yalta?" a friend asked. "You're going to Yalta?"

Odd that some people who are so familiar with other parts of the Mediterranean—Italy, Greece, and the overtrammed French Riviera know so little of Malta.

Geographically, the five islands of Malta (the big island, also called Malta, rural Gozo, tiny Comino, and two unoccupied islands) lie in a direct sea path between Europe and Africa, 60 miles southwest of Sicily, 210 miles east of Africa.

Philosophically and culturally, Malta is a mix of 5,000 years of itinerant civilizations arriving, pausing, and moving on.

It is thought that stone-age man paddled over from what is now Sicily and erected temples to a goddess of fertility—a fetching plump goddess (actually known as "The Fat Lady") discreetly swathed in a fringed skirt. Amazingly, the remains of these temples—older than the pyramids—still stand in open fields and you can wander through them, finger their wall carvings, gaze at the stars through their open roofs.

Continued on page 4

See Istanbul's Sights to Learn its History

By Glenda Winders

Copley News Service

Suppose it would be possible to visit the modern, bustling city of Istanbul and not even think about its history. The food alone is perfect—sun-ripened tomatoes, fresh olives, spicy lamb kebabs and sweet, nutty baklava—is worth the journey. So is the sightseeing. This is where East literally meets West, with parts of the city lying on two continents, Europe and Asia, separated by the dazzling

in Rome and completed by Constantine I in 325. Originally, it was a venue for games (seating 100,000) until sporting competition became political rivalry and such activities had to be stopped. Later, it was used for chariot races and as a spot for displaying columns and statuary from throughout the Roman Empire.

Only three stadiums or hippodromes remain today. The most impressive is the obelisk of Theodosius, a monolith from Egypt that was first erected in the 15th century B.C. and brought to Constantinople in A.D. 390. Its hieroglyphic inscriptions depict the victories of an Egyptian pharaoh, and the carvings on the marble base tell the story of the monument's being brought to its new place and of the emperor's family watching the chariot races.

THE UNDERGROUND CISTERN

Plan to spend a few minutes in the Underground Cistern, a remarkable structure created by Constantine and restored by Justinian in 532 for storing the imperial water supply. Since practicality was the motivator for the construction, many of the 336 columns used to support the edifice were recycled from temples and government buildings. Two of them are supported by beautifully carved heads of Medusa—sideways and upside down.

TOPKAPI PALACE

This intriguing palace, built during the reign of Mehmet the Conqueror in the 1400s, sits within a walled complex on a hill overlooking the confluence of the Bosphorus, the Golden Horn and the Sea of Marmara. It served as the home of the Ottoman rulers until the 19th century, and today it contains several museums that house everything from jeweled treasures to sacred relics of Mohammed and the caliphate.

To Western visitors, the most fascinating and enlightening part of a tour is the harem. Guides explain that these quarters were not just for housing women who supplied the reigning sultan's pleasure. Rather, all the women, including his mother, his wives, their servants and their children, lived here companionably, guarded by eunuchs.

The decor here is a tribute to wealth. Walls are tiled, doors are made of mother-of-pearl and furniture is gilded and bejeweled. The ceremonial throne is made of solid gold.

DOLMABACHE PALACE

Sultan Abdulmeccid built this palace overlooking the Bosphorus in the 19th century, reportedly to compete with those in Europe, most notably Versailles. Unfortunately, he lavished so much state money on his expensive rococo appointments that he placed a severe strain on the treasury.

Still, a great deal of history has taken place here during the palace's relatively short existence. The first parliament convened here in 1877 and the first Turkish Historical Congress was held in 1932.

Anatürk, who had taken up residence in the harem area, died here November 10, 1938.

THE MILITARY MUSEUM

This newly refurbished museum provides the predictable display of weaponry and uniforms, but it offers some surprises that make it anything but ordinary. On one level is a display of richly embroidered and lavishly carpeted tents from Ottoman campaigns that makes these battles all but come to life.

The best part of a visit to this museum is the performance of the Janissary Band, the first marching military band in the world. In Ottoman times, these elite musicians played loud marching pieces that scared the enemy away and influenced composers from Beethoven to Mozart. Now they put on a lively and colorful performance for visitors daily at 3 p.m.

TROY

If time allows for only a day trip outside the city, the choices are many, but my vote is for Troy. Travelers familiar with Ephesus say the Roman ruins there are in much better condition than the Greek ones in Troy, but Troy is closer and is situated in the idyllic countryside around Canakkale, which is rich with legends and history.

Here the ceremonial temples, homes and protective walls of nine cities have been uncovered and labeled in an ongoing archaeological dig. And while the Trojan horse may exist only in stories, a wooden replica has been built on the site so that visitors can imagine what it would have been like to be a Greek soldier inside. Other famous tourists who have visited this site are Xerxes, Alexander the Great and Julius Caesar.

Canakkale and Troy are a four-hour bus trip from Istanbul or a short flight on Turkish Airlines. Flights only leave a few times a week, so check ahead for scheduling.

GALLIPOLI

Across the Dardanelles by ferry from Canakkale lie the battlefields of Gallipoli. Here, for as far as one can see, are cemeteries and memorials to the soldiers who fought in the World War I campaign in which the Ottoman army turned back the combined forces of the British Empire, including Australian, French and Italian Allies.

These hills overlooking the sea are now a national monument, the graves and trenches a graphic reminder of the futility and cost of war. Here, at Anzac Cove, named for the Australian and New Zealand forces, carved in stone, is Atatürk's message to the Allied soldiers who died in an attempt to defeat the Turks:

"Those heroes that shed their blood, you are now living in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore rest in peace. There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehmets to us where they lie side by side here in this country of ours. You, the mothers who sent their sons from far away countries, wipe away

IF YOU GO

Prepare yourself

Read a good history of Turkey or a guidebook so you'll know what to look for as you trek through Istanbul and surrounding historical cities—and be able to recognize it when you get there. *Insight Guides: Turkey* (Houghton Mifflin) provides a brief, readable capsule of history and is a useful guidebook once you arrive. *The Med by Homer* is also fun to read in preparation for a visit to Troy.

If you're serious about seeing as many historical sites as possible but time is limited, a tour operator is your best planning bet. My trip was organized by Newport International Travel in Newport Beach, California, (001) 714/673-2800, whose owners are Turkish and know the history, culture and language. Once in Istanbul, they employ Turkish guides who must pass strict examinations to be licensed by the government. These people are knowledgeable—and can be a big help if you're shopping and trying to get a good price.

Getting There

Most flights to Istanbul require going through a European gateway city. Lufthansa German Airlines offers many flights each week from U.S. cities by way of Düsseldorf, Munich or Frankfurt.

Where to Stay

Several major hotel chains, such as Hilton, Marriott and Holiday Inn, now operate hotels in Istanbul, and there are also many small, budget-conscious inns throughout the city. I stayed at the Hyatt Regency, which proved to be a good choice for many reasons. It is located near lively Taksim Square and within walking distance of many of the sights you'll want to see. The helpful concierges will help you plan your day and arrange transportation. As an added bonus, the rooms here are designed to resemble the war tents of Ottoman soldiers—a nice touch for the traveler in search of Istanbul's history.

your tears; your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace. After having lost their lives on this land they have become our sons as well."

Glenda Winders is a Copley News Service editor and columnist.



Photos by Glenda Winders

Once a Byzantine cathedral and later a mosque, Hagia Sophia in Istanbul, Turkey, is now a museum that honors both Christian and Islamic traditions.

blue waters of the Bosphorus.

The shopping is like nowhere else in the world. Handmade rugs, leather coats, mother-of-pearl game boards and gold bangles are available at the Covered Bazaar and on every street corner, as well as in upscale department stores. The stalls in the Spice Bazaar put the senses on overload with pungent herbs, bright strings of peppers and the aroma of freshly ground coffee.

Yet to ignore the city's rich history is to miss out completely on the layers of struggle and adventure that explain how this energetic metropolis came to be.

Legend has it that in the seventh century B.C. the Greek Megarian leader Byzas consulted the oracle at Delphi and was told to settle across from the "land of the blind ones." When he arrived at Chalcedon, on the Asian shore, he looked across the Bosphorus to the European side and marveled that earlier colonists must have been blind not to recognize the area's beauty and advantageous strategic position. He founded a city and named it Byzantium.

The city was colonized by the Greeks around 660 B.C. and was the site of numerous Persian invasions. In A.D. 196 it was captured by Septimius Severus and absorbed into the Holy Roman Empire. Constantine the Great rebuilt the city and renamed it Constantinople in 326. From that point it became a symbol of luxury and riches, a mixing point for what remained of the classical period and the Roman influence of the new Christian era.

Crusaders sacked the city in 1204, but Byzantium survived for 200 more years until it was overtaken by Ottomans and renamed Istanbul (according to some, from *Islambol*, meaning full of Muslims) in 1453. The Ottoman Empire lasted until World War I, but by the end of the 17th century it had begun to crumble, as many of its component states made other alliances or gained independence. The empire formally ended in 1918, and the modern republic was organized by a war hero, Mustafa Kemal, who was subsequently renamed Atatürk, father of Turks.

These vastly different cultural groups each left their stamp on Istanbul, and many of their palaces and monuments still stand today. Thus, to tour some of the city's attractions is to trace its rich heritage and colorful past. This sampling only scratches the surface, but it's a good place to start.

THE HIPPODROME

The construction of this type of stadium was started by Septimius Severus in 203 to resemble Circus Maximus

THE SULTANAHMET MOSQUE

Known more commonly as the Blue Mosque, this most extraordinary of Istanbul's mosques was built for Ahmet I between 1609 and 1616 and is unique because it has six minarets. Since Muslims do not portray human images or icons in their places of worship, the interior of this mosque gleams with blue and white tiles depicting flowers and birds that have symbolic meanings. Until the 19th century, this mosque was the starting point for a pilgrimage to Mecca.

In keeping with Muslim tradition, both men and women should avoid wearing shorts here, and women should plan to cover their arms and heads. All visitors are required to remove their shoes before walking on the prayer rugs inside. Be prepared to tip a child when you return for keeping an eye on yours.

The mosque is open to tourists every day, except during times of prayer.

HAGIA SOPHIA

Just a short walk across a courtyard from the Blue Mosque is what was once a Byzantine cathedral, Hagia Sophia, which means sacred wisdom. The church was begun during the reign of Constantine in 325-360 and rebuilt by Justinian in 536. It was burned repeatedly during various insurrections over the centuries and its golden mosaics and silver crosses stolen by marauders. At the Turkish conquest of Istanbul in 1453, Mehmet II converted it into a mosque; later Suleyman I (1520-1566) plastered over the mosaics.

It has been restored many times, most extensively by the Turkish architect Sinan, who built the abutments to carry the outward thrust of the dome to the foundations, thereby saving the dome from collapse. In 1934, Atatürk proclaimed the edifice a museum. Today, it provides a dramatic juxtaposition of Christian and Islamic heritages. Verses from the Koran are inscribed in the dome, and large camel-hide plaques that carry the names of Allah, Mohammed and the major caliphs coexist with Christian mosaics.

While you're here, stop at the "sweating column," so named because it absorbed water from a cistern below. Here, Justinian is said to have cured a migraine by putting his head against the cool stone. After centuries of pilgrims have visited, a deep indentation called the "holy hole" has resulted.



This lounge in the harem area of Topkapi Palace in Istanbul, Turkey, is where a sultan might have once received an honored guest.

MAIDEN MINERVA

Swan Hellenic's 194-cabin Minerva will depart April 29 on its 15-day maiden voyage from Genoa, Italy. Charting a course in the eastern Mediterranean, the ship will call at Naples and Messina, Italy; Olympia, Athens, Delphi and Rhodes, Greece; and Ephesus and Pergamum, Turkey.

Minerva's accommodations vary from standard inside cabins to luxurious suites with private verandas. Fares for the voyage range from \$4,795 to \$9,545 per person, double occupancy. Airfare between London and the starting and ending ports, accommodations, all meals, shore excursions, gratuities and portage are included.

Following the inaugural cruise, the Minerva will sail to Northern Africa for The Romans in

Africa and Iberia for 'The Arts of Iberia' before returning to London for a series of cruises to Ireland and the Western Isles of Scotland. In July, the ship will embark on 12-day voyages to the Baltic countries. FYI: Classical Cruises & Tours, 132 East 70th Street, New York, New York 10021; (001) 212/517-7555.

SEEING SICILY

Travelers who want to explore Sicily's history and history can choose between two itineraries offered by Amelia Tours.

The 11-day 'Just Sicily' tour begins with four nights in Palermo, from which the group makes excursions to Monte Pellegrino, the Golden Basilica of Monreale, the seaside town of Cefalù, the Greek temple at Segesta and the Norman cap-

ital city Erice. The group also spends two nights in Agrigento and three nights in the resort town of Taormina.

'Just Sicily' costs \$2,180 per person, including accommodations, most meals, motor coach transportation, guide services and airport transfers. The tour is limited to 24 participants. Departures are scheduled for May 29, Sept. 26 and Dec. 22.

'Noble Sicilian' is a 15-day journey that follows a similar route to 'Just Sicily' but with more excursions. The group will visit the estate of Count Taormina for lunch and a tour of the winery. Limited to 18 participants, 'Noble Sicilian' is priced at \$3,150 per person. Departures are scheduled for June 2 and Oct. 18. FYI: Amelia Tours, (001) 516/579-1580.

PASSAGE TO INDIA

Orient Cruise Lines has a special two-for-one offer for its "Passage to India" itinerary, April 11-29 every year.

Departing from Singapore, the 800-passenger Marco Polo will call at Kuala Lumpur and Penang, Malaysia; Phuket, Thailand; Colombo, Sri Lanka; and Cochin and Goa, India. The package also includes two nights in Singapore and a three-night land package in Delhi, plus sightseeing tours of both cities.

The price for the first passenger is \$3,645; the second passenger travels for free. Both passengers must pay for port charges, air fare and air taxes. FYI: Orient Lines, (001) 954/527-6660.

Information provided by Copley News Service.

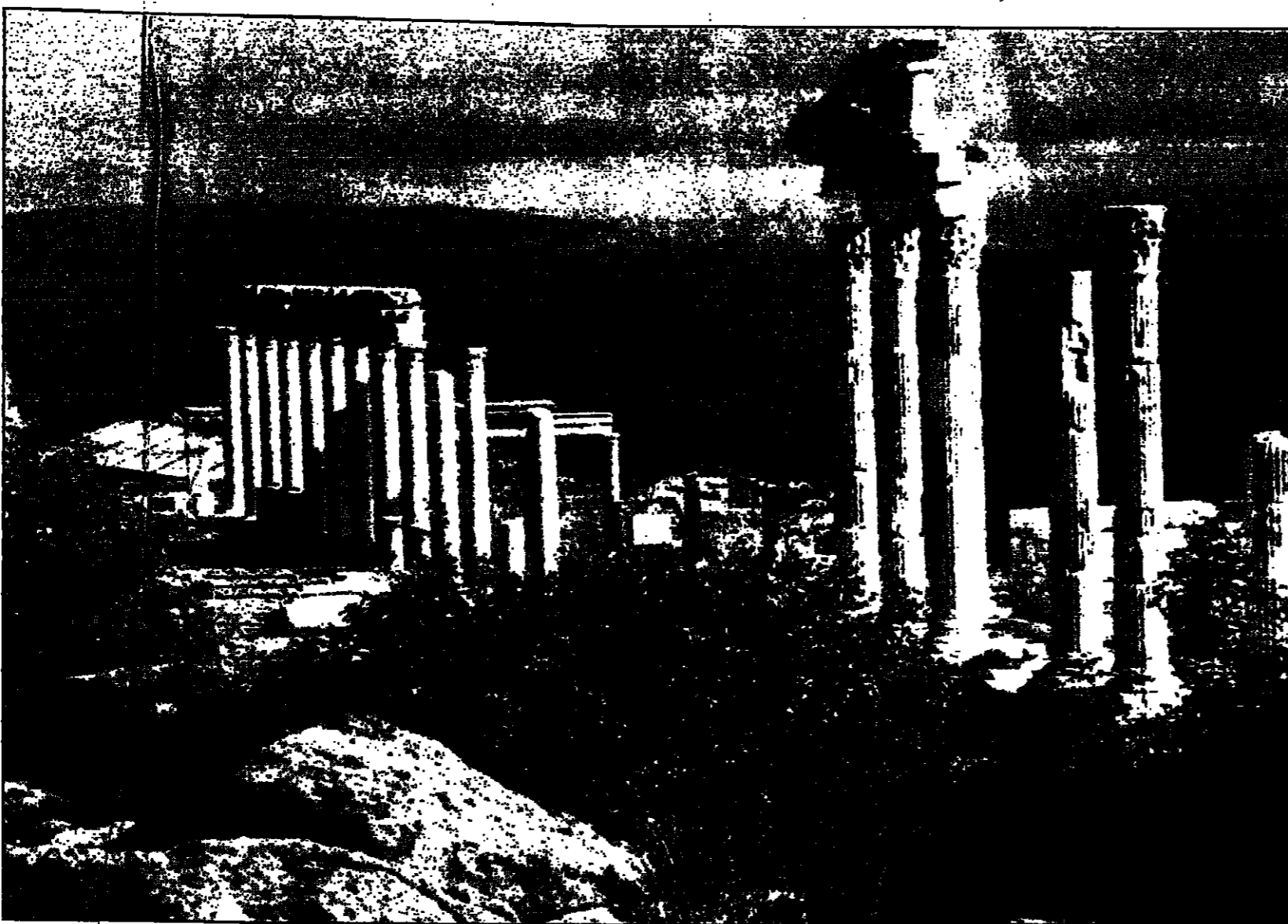
History

YOU GO

Prepare yourself

Getting There

Where is So?



Left: The ruins of the Greco-Roman Empire are everywhere.

Below: Since 2000 B.C., inhabitants have carved out homes in lunar-like Cappadocia



Photos by Louis Sotonoff

TURKEY'S BACK ROAD DELIGHTS

By Roberta Sotonoff

The only English this young Turk knew was, "Welcome to my country."

Friendliness, the kaleidoscope of sights, sounds and smells, the diversity of its people—Turkey is a treasure of all these things.

"Half of the visitors that come here arrive by cruise ship and visit only Istanbul and Ephesus," says Turkish Tourist Ministry Director, Mustafa Siyahhan. "They do not really see what we are about."

Navigating the roads of Turkey is a real trip. It can be leisurely or expeditious. The highways are a panorama of the country. A BMW or Mercedes may pass you Fiat, but you will have to pass trucks, camels, cows, horses, sheep, three-wheeled carts, bikes and motorcycles.

These roads have always been important to wayfarers. Because of Turkey's strategic location bordering Asia and Europe, the Ottomans controlled trade routes like the Royal Road and the Silk Road. In fact, their domination over these thoroughfares became an impetus for Europeans to find a water route to the East.

During these times, sultans offered merchants, along with their elephants and camels, free lodging for three nights at hani. Today's journeymen do not get the benefits of the modern day hani. They have to pay for their accommodations.

The modern European-style capital of Ankara is a good place to begin exploring Turkey. Start at Ankara's impressive Museum of Ancient Civilization. All of Turkey's museums are fascinating and informative, but this one chronicles history from 10,000 years ago to Greek and Roman times.

Turkey's history is diverse and Ankara is filled with interesting sites. For example, Ataturk's mausoleum in Ankara, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the father of modern-day Turkey, brought the country into the 20th century in 1923. He westernized it with secu-

lar and economic reforms like the banning of traditional fezzes, turbans, and veils. He replaced the Muslim calendar and Arabic script with the Gregorian calendar and Roman script.

Southwest of Ankara is Cappadocia, an eerie lunar-like complex. Since 2000 B.C., inhabitants have carved out homes in caves, volcanic tuffs and underground.

Friendliness, the kaleidoscope of sights, sounds and smells, the diversity of its people—Turkey is a treasure of all these things.

Derinkuyu, an eight-leveled underground city, resembles something from "Raiders of the Lost Ark." Its 10,000 Christian residents took refuge from the frequent attacks of marauding Arabs. They built 1,000 churches in the caves, decorated with beautiful frescoes that are found today at the Goreme Open Air Museum.

South of Cappadocia is the traditional city of Konya, with its red-tiled roofs and turquoise steeples. Gentlemen with bright green conical hats or scarf-clad women dressed in traditional black dresses are a familiar sight near the Mevlana Mezusu or the Alsedidin Tepesi. Konya was the home of the Mevlana, the Sufic mystic who founded the "Whirling Dervish" sect.

BARGAIN SHOPPING

From Konya, the rugged, mountainous roads south and west lead to the resort town of Antalya. Carpet, leather and jewelry shops line the hilly cob-

ble-stone streets. Following the crooked streets down to the picturesque Mediterranean shore, we search for dinner. Selecting fresh fish from an outdoor display is a Turkish ritual. It is cooked to order while we watch the activity on the seashore.

After dinner we experience the jewelry and carpet conspiracy. A young man approaches.

"My father owns a rug store. Come and see. He will make you a good deal."

Show a glimmer of interest, and you will be whisked there as quickly as you can say, "Open Sesame." While imbibing the complementary drink, and being smothered with kindness, a carpet salesman displays an ability he must have inherited from Ali Baba. Carpets unroll so quickly, they seem to take flight.

The ruins of the Greco-Roman Empire are everywhere. There are remnants of cities such as Perga, Side, Aspendos, the 4,000-foot above sea-level city of Termessos, Aphrodesis, Kerapolis, Spardis, Pergamum—Asclepion, Troy, and Ephesus.

Ephesus, formerly the capital of Asia, is fabulous. Its Celsus Library once housed 12,000 scrolls. The daily life of its former 300,000 residents seems to seep out if its incredible marble structures and paved streets.

"This long row of toilets was a meeting place for nobility," explained a guide. "Slaves would warm them for their masters so they would not have to sit on

cold marble." As incredible as these ruins is Istanbul. It lies in both Europe and Asia. From Camlica Hill, the highest point in Istanbul, there is a spectacular view of the city's hilly landscape. Dotted with mosques, palaces, museums, and monuments, it is surrounded by the



The ruins of the former capital of Asia, Ephesus.

Bosphorus, the Marmara Sea and the Golden Horn. Once the hub of the Ottoman Empire, it would take more than a month to see the sights. The network of buildings at the Topkapi Palace is a full day's excursion. Its fabulous jewels, including the famous Topkapi dagger, is a bauble lover's dream.

The 4,000 shops of the Grand Bazaar has the best souvenir shopping. But the Spice Bazaar incorporates the real ambiance of Istanbul. Odors rise from spice-laden barrels, while sights and sounds of a hodge-podge of cultures gorge your senses.

A Turkish bath is relaxing after shopping. Sitting nude on a stoop in an enormous marble domed room, one can only wonder, "What am I doing half-way around the world with only a towel?"

The Turkish massage is worth the wonder. Turkey has so much to offer, it will put your brain on "circuit overload." It is also the bargain of Europe. Where else can you go where a cup of tea and a car wash is included with a fill-up?

Roberta Sotonoff is a freelance travel writer.

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Malta From page 1

In the coastal villages the fishermen still go out to sea in the small boats or "luzzu", painted with eyes on the front to ward off evil—a custom retained from 1400 B.C. when the Phoenicians made the island a regular trade route stop-over.

Most who have heard of Malta ask, of course, about The Falcon. Native Maltese tend to wince at the mention of it.

The Maltese Falcon of history is not a lead artifact from Hollywood. It was the token yearly rental paid to

In 1964, Malta became an independent republic. The stamp of British speech and law is still evident—English is one of two official languages, the Maltese parliament is based on the British, the Maltese lira is still called "the pound" by every shopkeeper, and the occasional tavern will still serve warm English beer.

But unlike other territories I have visited after the British trundled their empire elsewhere, Malta is uniquely—nay, insistently—its own sort of place.

Somehow this island nation has managed to take bits from 5000 years of cross currents, invasions, and rude awakenings and turn it all into a mosaic of beauty and zest.

This is a country that is 80 percent Catholic, but the Almighty is referred to as "Allah." In a language that is primarily Arabic, the alphabet is written European style. The word for "good evening" is "bonswa" (Napoleon lives!), and

the word for "thank you" is "grazzi," said the same way you would say it on the Via Veneto in Rome. "Good morning," on the other hand, is "I ghodwa tajba," and "please," is "yekk joghgbok."

Listening to Maltese (for most newcomers it is impossible at first to pronounce the language with its multiple Xs and Qs and its consonants all in a row) you almost think you understand what is being said. There is the faint echo of speech mutated through the ages but still with an oddly familiar ring.

"It's Dutch!" exclaimed a traveling companion in sudden certainty.

"No, we are dominantly a Latin culture," a Maltese explained kindly. "You can tell. We move our hands when we speak."

If you go to Malta, don't go for the beaches or resorts. They do have them (Hollywood, The Falcon aside, has taken to filming pirate epics there), and you can simmer on sand in the summer. But it would be a waste. There are better beaches elsewhere, on islands where history is little more than a grass skirt and a native carving in a cave.

In Malta, you can track history through every side street from neolithic temples to Norman castles to 16th-century palaces to 20th-century jazz clubs overlooking the harbor. You can drink cappuccino in the main square of Valletta while Queen Victoria glowers in marble majesty over your café table.

Maybe you'll step across the street to the Caffé Cordina, a coffee-house cum politico meeting place where the conversation in at least four languages has the yeastiness and flavor of freshly baked bread. Or wander up Republic street to the Grand Master's Palace for amour, mpestries and, sometimes, parliament.

You can book a show in the 16th-century Manoel theater, or hang out at a hip wine bar over on St. Julian's Bay.

You might take the half-hour ferry ride to Gozo for Calyso's cave, a neolithic temple or two, or—even better—the bustle of that island's capital, Victoria, where you can catch a guitar player in the square while you watch a fishmonger taking bids on a seething bin of octopus. (Oddly, Gozo seems to be a mecca for locals who have emigrated to America to work and then returned home, much the richer and very house proud.)

You can drive or bus from Valletta to a nearby village to catch a festival or visit a catacomb. Maltese buses are owned by their drivers and you get the feeling that if you really want to go off route down that small lane, the Maltese driver will oblige.

My favorite Maltese moments had to be on the evening we drove along the sea coast in the setting sun to the village of Rabat for the festival of the Feast of St. Joseph.

The Maltese have a passion for fests, and as a

In Malta, you can track history through every side street from neolithic temples to Norman castles to 16th-century palaces to 20th-century jazz clubs overlooking the harbor.

Charles V of Spain, Holy Roman Emperor, by the Knights of the Order of St. John who arrived in 1530 to occupy the islands.

The Knights, driven out of Rhodes by the invading Ottoman Turks, came to Malta determined to defend it against the infidels at all costs. To do this they built the golden, fortified city of Valletta overlooking the Grand Harbour, thus moving the capital from the medieval hillside town of Mdina where the Spanish aristocrats lived (and still live) in isolated splendor.

The Knights of Malta stayed successfully in residence for 270 years, beating back the Turkish armada in the great siege of 1565. They adorned their new city with the architecture and art of the Renaissance, calling in as chief planner a colleague of Michelangelo. Mostly made up of younger sons of European nobility from backgrounds of wealth and pride, the Order built palaces called "auberges" for each of its eight different "langues", or national brotherhoods. (The English "langue" was subsequently suppressed after Henry VIII quarreled with the Pope.)

The vast, glittering, if slightly overwrought Co-Cathedral of St. John is perhaps the Order's mightiest monument, with two of Caravaggio's hangings on its walls.

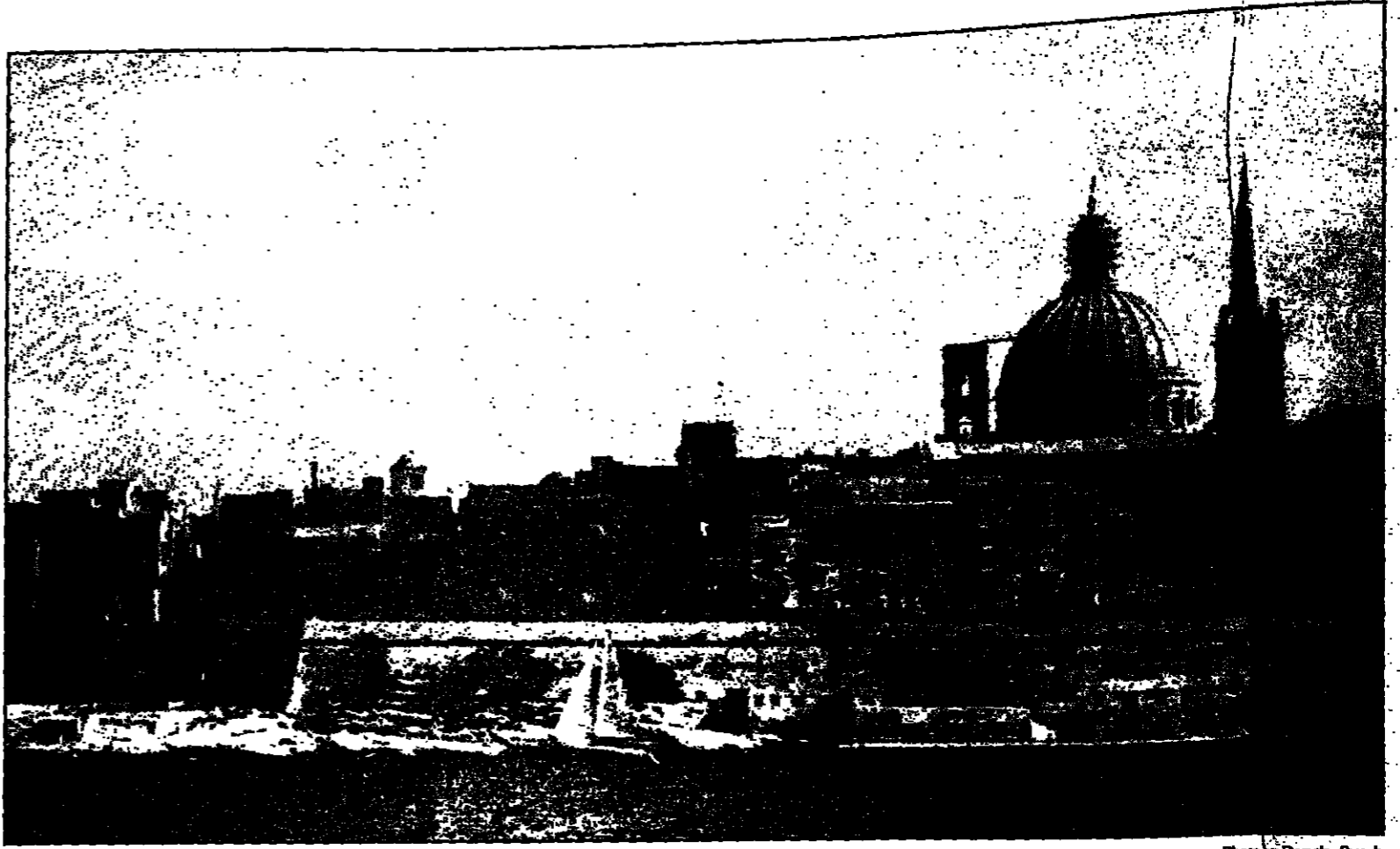
Pledged from the time of the Crusades to tend the sick and wounded, the Knights did so with a grandeur peculiarly their own. Hospital patients were addressed as "M'Lord" and were served food on silver and gold platters. Many thought it decadent. During almost three centuries of stern rule which later slipped into over-ripe lassitude, the Knights invited not one Maltese to join the Order.

Finally, in 1798, a rakish French-Corsican en route to conquer Egypt was invited in by the native Maltese to rid themselves of the Knights and their autocratic ways. Napoleon, a chancy guest-ruler at best, turned out to be more interested in looting churches than in mediating laws. The French were turfed out in short order by Lord Nelson and the British who blockaded the harbor and moved in for 160 years of peaceful rule.

Malta has many heroes. Napoleon Bonaparte is not one of them. Nor, for that matter, is Humphrey Bogart.

The Maltese take heroism seriously. Embossed on the national flag is the George Cross, Britain's highest decoration for civilian gallantry. It was awarded to every Maltese by George VI after the island stood firm under waves of German and Italian bombing during World War II, more concentrated bombing than in any other theater of war.

Malta survived against starvation and siege, as it had for centuries, and this time provided a base for the Allies to cut the vital line of supply ships from Italy to Rommel's campaign in North Africa.



The vast, glittering cathedral overlooks the Grande Harbour of Valletta, Malta.

Catholic country they have a plethora of saints. Every home is open on feast days and the candlelit church is full. The sacred statue of the saint of the day is carried through the throngs on the shoulders of priests wearing cassocks the color of the surrounding Mediterranean sea.

As I was pushing through the crowd in Rabat that evening, my canvas safari hat lifted off my head in the breeze and landed as if directed by doppler onto the head of a small boy riding on his father's shoulders. He clutched the hat with both hands, his face a study of delight.

wooden platform held aloft by the marching priests. For him—and for me—the miracle of Malta was clearly at work in its wondrous, ancient way.

"Grazzi, grazzi," he called to the statue of St. Joseph which, at that moment, was bobbing by on its

Dorothy Storck is a Chicago freelance writer.

SNAPSHOT Shed Light on the Subject

By Carl and Ann Purcell

Copley News Service

After the sun goes down most pictures require the use of flash. The technology of modern cameras with fast lenses and high-speed film has made a flash unnecessary in many instances. There are times, however, when supplementary light is needed.

The photography enthusiast should be aware that the advent of automation with electronic flash has made flash pictures much easier to take than in the past. This is most clearly evident with the very popular point-and-shoot cameras. These use electronic flash indoors or out and automatically compute exposure for the amateur. Outside flash in sunlight serves to fill in the dark shadows. With these types of cameras, the flash units are integrated into the cameras, and it is not necessary for the photographer to even think about the fact that he is using flash.

More sophisticated photographers tend to avoid the use of flash, partly because they believe it creates an artificial quality in their pictures and partly because they don't feel comfortable with light they can't see and evaluate through their viewfinder.

To some extent, we share these feelings and understand the desire of many photographers to retain the sense of reality that is conveyed with available light. As professional photographers, however, it has been necessary for us to have the option of a flash to cope with night or indoor settings where the light level is inadequate for photography.

The standard 35 mm camera is equipped with a hot shoe on the top. This is a slot with electrical contacts designed for holding the electronic flash unit. The flash is triggered when the picture is taken. Most flash units utilize a built-in light sensor to set the exposure automatically. This works on the principle that the light travels from the flash to the subject and back to the sensor on the unit, controlling the duration of the light to provide the precise exposure for the film.

One of the perennial problems with flash photography comes from the flash unit being mounted directly on the camera. This often results in a distracting shadow cast on the wall behind the subject, not to mention the flat quality of the lighting. There can also be a problem of "red eye" where the retina of a person's eye reflects the light from the flash directly back to the film plane.

Fortunately, these problems can be overcome by using the flash off the camera with a coil connecting cord. The flash should be held up and off to one side, the light directed toward the subject. Under these circumstances, the automatic exposure feature will still work as long as the off-camera flash is about the same distance from the subject as the camera.

The photographer should be aware that flash can only cover a limited area in a picture. In a large, dimly lit room or outside at night, the person or subject will be properly exposed, but the background will be completely black. This distracting effect does not exist when a wall is reasonably close behind the subject.

The light from electronic flash tends to be rather harsh, and this can be softened by bouncing the light against a white surface so that it reflects back on the subject. Many flash units are equipped with tilting heads so they can be directed at any convenient surface. (Remember that for color film, the surface must be white.) Photographers familiar with flash techniques often carry white sheets or



Natural light casts a flattering glow on human subjects.

large squares of white cardboard for bouncing light. Some electronic flash units incorporate a tiny fill light that is used in combination with the main bounce light.

The most important goal in flash photography is to make your pictures look as if they were taken without flash. This can best be achieved by blending the flash skillfully with existing light. Be aware of both the natural light reading and flash exposure when using this combination of light sources.

In practice, we find that it helps to set a higher ISO rating on the flash than is recommended for the color film being used so that the artificial light does not dominate the photograph and overpower the natural light. For instance, you might set the flash unit at ISO 100 when using Kodachrome 64. You can only determine the best rating by making some test shots.

It is obvious that some form of flash is an important tool for the photographer. It can extend the range of your picture-taking into new times and new places.

Carl and Ann Purcell are America's leading travel writing/photography team.

Malta Travel Information. A travel guide section with various sub-headings: When to Go, Where to Stay, and other travel tips. The text is dense and partially obscured by a large, dark, stylized graphic element.

مكتبة الرحمة

Think it out before coming 'home'

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM



Dear Ruthie, I am a Palestinian American - born in Umm el-Fahm - who has lived in the US since the 1960s. Though well educated and well off (I owned an engineering consulting firm), with an American wife and four children, I am still unable to be absorbed fully in the American melting pot.

Last year, I took my first visit to this "homeland" (whether you call it Israel, Palestine, or the Holy Land), and I immediately fell in love with that soil. My question is: Is there room for me and my wife to return to Umm el-Fahm? Or get some part-time professorship at Israeli or Palestinian universities? Or, perhaps, perform engineering consulting services in Israel? How do the Israeli laws apply in our case? What about the status of our children? Can we own land? Pining Palestinian Fairfax, Virginia

Dear PP,

For details about your legal status and job opportunities, you need to contact the Israeli Consulate and other relevant authorities.

But technical details are only a minuscule part of what such a move for you and your wife would entail. If, after 30-some financially fruitful years in the US, you still feel "lumpy" where the melting pot is concerned, imagine what it would take for your wife to feel at home in Umm el-Fahm. And the soil, which so struck your fancy during vacation, could look quite different once you're ensconced on it.

Before undertaking such a major upheaval, you would do well to take your wife on a few extended trips to the "homeland" for serious examination. You may be more absorbed in American culture than you think. You may also be more absorbed in fantasy than reality.

Dear Ruthie, I am the father of a 14-year-old who is unable to deal with disappointment. My wife says he will grow out of it, but she has been

saying this since he was two. I keep trying to figure out ways to ease potentially explosive situations, with little success. (The other day, for example, when an imminent teachers' strike was called off at the last minute, my son was so furious about having to go to school, that he became verbally abusive toward us.) I think he needs to see a therapist, but he won't hear of it.

Frustrated Father Somewhere in Israel

Dear FF,

Your attempt to "ease potentially explosive situations" is counter-productive. You should be helping your son to accept disappointment as an integral, unavoidable, part of life.

"Freaking out" at the prospect of his unhappiness conveys the opposite message. Struggling a spiritual shoulder the next time a teachers' strike is canceled would stand both you and your son in better stead for other letdowns. Perhaps it is you who should consider therapy.

Dear Ruthie,

My children befriended the neighbor's dog, who is pregnant. I just discovered - to my dismay - that my neighbor promised a puppy from the impending litter to my kids. When I told them a dog is out of the question, they got indignant. After all, a "grown-up" promised them they could have one! I am quite annoyed at my neighbor for not having discussed this with me first. What do I do now?

Dog Duped Petah Tikva

Dear DD,

You need not be annoyed with your neighbor, nor need you be manipulated by your children: The only "grown-ups" possessing a binding power-of-promise to your kids should be you and your other parent. If your kids are able to convince you to change your mind about the canine, so be it. If not, so be it too.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail: editors@jpost.co.il (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

Professor with a genius for social unity

Israel Prize winner Yehuda Amir's life has been a struggle to unify the nation. Sue Fishkoff reports



Prof. Yehuda Amir (above), a promoter of integration, says that different ethnic groups will not necessarily become closer through physical contact alone; specific conditions must be present for that to happen.

(David M. Weinberg/Bar-Ilan University)

FOR the past three decades, Bar-Ilan University psychology professor Yehuda Amir has worked against the tide of growing social divisiveness and individualism to promote what he believes is the original Zionist goal of a united people.

Social researcher, educational pioneer, founding chief of the IDF's research unit in behavioral sciences, founder and first director of Bar-Ilan University's Institute for Integration in the School System and Winston Institute for the Study of Prejudice, Amir has introduced programs promoting social integration into hundreds of schools, authored more than 100 scientific articles and books, and worked tirelessly to reduce conflict between ethnic and social groups.

Last May, he was awarded the 1995 Israel Prize for Psychological Research in recognition of his lifelong contribution to social integration. He was also named professor emeritus at Bar-Ilan, where he has been affiliated since the early '60s, serving as full professor in the psychology department since 1978.

In addition to his academic focus on ethnic and social integration, Amir stands as a personal example of the concepts he has tried to foster.

He has been for more than 30 years one of the few secular professors on Bar-Ilan's largely observant faculty, a point he has been proud to bring up to demonstrate the importance he places on promoting coexistence, particularly between religious and secular Jews.

Since early February, Amir has been confined to his Ramat Hasharon home, suffering from brain cancer. His wife Hemda, a clinical school sociologist who recently retired to assist her husband, provided much of the information for this interview.

Born to a religious family in Vienna in 1926, Amir fled Austria with his family in late 1938, arriving in Haifa in February 1939. He served in the Palmah during the War of Independence, received his BA from the Hebrew University and then went to New York in 1952, where he received his PhD in social psychology from New York University in 1958.

It was while researching his doctoral thesis at a Quaker summer camp in the US in 1956 that he developed his "social contact model," which colleagues today describe as his major theoretical contribution to the field of social and educational psychology.

Observing the interactions at the camp between students from different countries and ethnic backgrounds - including Jews,

Germans and Arabs - Amir realized that different groups will not necessarily become closer through physical contact alone; specific conditions must be present during that contact.

Some of those conditions include cooperation rather than competition, working toward a shared goal, meaningful and sustained interaction rather than superficial contact, and equal social status between the groups.

The model he developed from this research is now standard textbook material internationally.

Returning to Israel in 1959, Amir went to work for the IDF, becoming one of the key figures in the creation of the army's psychology research unit. When Bar-Ilan University was established three years later, Amir and several of his colleagues moved to the new university, where he remained for the rest of his professional career.

Amir was always animated by the early Labor Zionist vision of

an Israeli society that would unite disparate Jewish groups into one national community. Hemda says. He further believed it was too late to wait until military service brought young people from different backgrounds together into the social melting pot. Integration had to begin in the early school years.

Amir disagreed strongly with the early Israeli educational system's tracking program, which separated out gifted and poor students, and organized schools according to geographic neighborhood.

During Ramat Hasharon's first experiments with integrated schools nearly 20 years ago, Amir headed the public committee that argued with wealthy parents who didn't want their children in the same classes with less well-off youngsters.

"He told them we are one nation, and this will benefit all our children," Hemda recalls.

"Yehuda believed that better teachers would be needed to

teach integrated classes, and that would benefit all the students. He was very unhappy at the trend he saw taking place in Israeli society and Israeli schools the past few years, with the extreme individualist emphasis. He was so happy to get the Israel Prize, because it signified to him that the idea of integration, of making one nation out of the various ethnic groups in Israel, is still considered important."

Amir did not believe that contact can bring all conflicting groups closer. For example, Hemda says, he believed it could backfire in the case of secular and haredi Jews. But contact was the best method, he believed, for integrating children of other ethnic backgrounds in Israel - from Sephardic to Ashkenazi, Arab to Jew, Russians to Ethiopians, poor to wealthy, and he devoted much of the past decade to that aim.

The Education Ministry appointed him 12 years ago as

chairman of the public committee for examining reform in the education system. Through his institutes and public work, he has developed and implemented teaching techniques used in Israeli classrooms to foster integration.

Amir's colleagues describe him as a man whose personality reflected his professional goals. "For him, intergroup relations wasn't just an academic topic," says Dr. Rahef Ben-Ari, director of the Institute for Social Integration and a former doctoral student of Amir's. "His whole personality portrayed his theoretical ideas. He was intensely human, a very kind man. You don't see that very often in academic life."

Amir's quiet sense of humor often deflected conflicts in the ego-ridden world of academia. He was regularly tapped to head the general assemblies of the Israel Psychological Association, because of his rare ability to unite the various factions.

"He wasn't a joke-teller, but he always knew how to reduce tension in a room by looking at the humorous side of a situation," recalls Prof. Joseph Schwarzwald of Bar-Ilan's psychology department.

But Amir was perhaps most respected in his field for his emphasis on applied social research.

"When he approached his research, he always asked himself how it could help improve intergroup relations in Israel," Schwarzwald continues. "He really dedicated himself to helping Israelis, especially within the educational system, live and cope with diversity. You don't find that many people in the academy who emphasize basic and applied research to that degree."

Until the past few months, Amir kept up his tireless pace, organizing and attending international conferences, serving on the executive committees of World ORT and ORT Israel, and working on the government's "30 Settlements" educational project in Tiberias and Yehud.

Even during his second series of aggressive chemotherapy, when he was so weak he could hardly walk, he would get in the car to drive to Tiberias for committee meetings. Hemda says, "He believed his work would make a difference." Hemda says, "His hopes and dreams for a united Israel remain undimmed, she says."

"We'd sometimes sit with friends who came here from America years ago, and they'd say, 'this is not the Israel we made aliyah for.'"

"Yehuda never accepted that. He always replied, 'we have to fight to make it that Israel.'"

America's new homeless: White and middle-class

AS evening falls, the tribe gathers by the river, to forage for smoke and drink and food. There is safety in numbers.

Wearing studded dog collars, their Mohawks dyed orange and green, their lips and nipples pierced, the tribe lives a hard-core life on the streets, an existence largely unknown in the mainstream America they have rejected as inane, materialist and hypocritical.

They call themselves "gutter punks," and they are a new kind of homeless: white, middle-class, often bright, politically militant and without homes by choice. Not many of them are older than 21.

Their appearance and their lifestyle seem like a nightmare to many of their parents and much of society, as if all the promise of youth in America had been turned inside out, producing these nihilistic, angry, ironic spawn, all dressed in black, the end result perhaps of decades of family disintegration, suburban boredom and national cynicism.

America has always had its rebels, and the gutter punks today can be seen as the latest in a long

line, from the anarchist hobos to the Beats and the hippies.

But where the hippies may have espoused peace and love and a return to the land, with drugs viewed as a path to enlightenment, today's punks seem different. Their world, is dark, urban, dangerous, and many of the ones who drink and do drugs do not want visions; they want to black out.

"They're just kids. But they're kids who stick safety pins through their eyebrows and sniff paint and live in squats and scare the tourists, because most people don't understand what the hell these kids are talking about," said Tommy Ross, who runs a drop-in center in New Orleans, where the gutter punks come to wash and stash their bundles.

"They'll tell you, 'Hey man, I'm living off the waste of America. I don't need your money. And I don't need you.' I hear that one all the time."

"I only live for three reasons," said Eric, 20, slurring and stumbling around New Orleans's French Quarter with his friends on a recent night.

"To drink, to fight, to screw.

That's what I am, an escape artist, man."

Yet earlier, in the cold winter sunshine on "Hippie Hill," an amphitheater of stone steps that looks out on the quarter's picturesque Jackson Square, Becca, 18, sober and sweet-faced and carrying a sleepy puppy in her arms, said, "People are afraid of us, but we're not the ones who are scary."

None of the advocates for the homeless or the gutter punks themselves knows the size of the tribe, and "tribe" is a word many of them use to describe the subculture, complete with ritualistic piercing, tattooing and adornment.

New Orleans, a winter haven for the tribe, probably supported 500 or so homeless gutter punks during Mardi Gras in February.



'Gutter punks' tramping along Rampart Street in the French Quarter of New Orleans.

(Michael Williamson / Washington Post)

There are probably thousands on the road at any one time. Ross reports that last year more than 2,000 kids came through the drop-in center, and the population seems to have increased over the last four years.

"But numbers are real hard to

guess," said Paul Rigsby, a private detective who tracks down under-age, runaway punks for their families. "These kids are as migratory as Canada geese." Others cage rides from Greyhound lines. But they do not go home. It is just a scam to get someplace else.

There is a cave outside Tempe, Arizona; a farm in Kentucky; a creek bed in Austin, Texas.

New Orleans, especially, has what punks want: abandoned buildings to squat in; dumpsters to dive in; a Bohemian, party atmosphere. And the city has

plenty of half-full cups of beer and booze to be picked up off the curb or trash cans or table tops, a practice known as "ground scoring," the urban punkster's equivalent of living off the land.

(The Washington Post)

'The yuppie world means nothing'

HOMELESS advocates suggest that many left because they were abused. That may be true, said Tommy Ross, who runs the drop-in center in New Orleans. "But what is abuse? What is a good home and a bad home? Some kids come from completely awful situations. Dad's drunk and mom's a hooker, that sort of thing. But others tell me, 'My parents never really loved me.' Or 'They were too busy with the careers to care about me.'"

"Paul Rigsby, a private investigator who searches out under-age punks for their families, said he believes most punks come from well-to-do homes. They're the smart kids in school, high IQs, scholarships. But at some point along the line, our educational system failed them. For some reason, they just pack up and leave."

"The world of the yuppies means nothing to me," said Stone, 18 and covered in patches, itching from scabies. "I live on the streets. I'm a survivor and a warrior. And I drink to have visions, and to escape the nightmare of my life. 'What was the nightmare of his life? Stone stared ahead and then said, 'My parents are rich people who have never performed a noble gesture in their lives.' To prove himself noble, Stone took the 72 cents he had and handed it to a tourist. 'I'm free,' he said. 'That proves it.'"

On the wall of Kaldi's coffee shop, a mother has hung a flier describing her 16-year-old daughter, street-named Otto, and asking her to call home; her little brother misses her. "She was a great kid, smart, straight As," said her mom. "It's depressing to think she could be anywhere now, anywhere in the whole world."

(The Washington Post)

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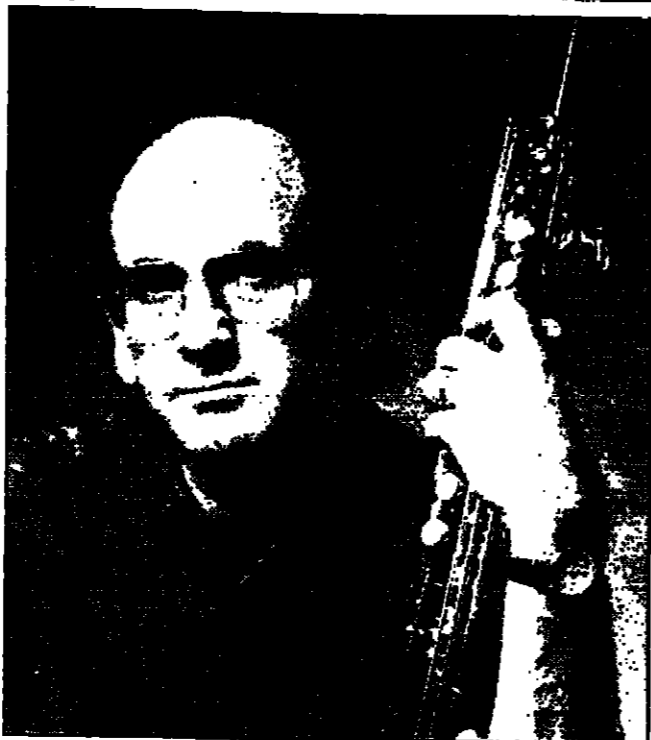
JAZZ/LIGHT MUSIC

HELEN KAYE

SAXOPHONIST Dave Liebman played with Miles Davis in the '40s and went on to have a great career as a soloist, composer and teacher. Here he'll play his own music - a fusion of contemporary sound and improvisation - with pianist Miko Naronski, Eli Magen on bass and a string quartet. This last concert in the Jazz Off Center series is at the Tel Aviv Museum tonight at 9.

For the third year in a row the French Institute presents French jazz and all kinds of ethnic music at Tzavta Tel Aviv. Bustan Avraham, whose lively east/west rhythms have been heard at the Israel Festival, appears tomorrow at 8, and at 10 it's violinist Didier Lockwood and guitarist Bireli Lagrene.

At the same venue on Saturday at 8, Thierry Robin (on acoustic guitar, bouzouki and oud) and his sextet perform a selection of Gypsy music. At 10, Algerian-born pianist Martial Solal leads a musically eclectic jazz trio. Solal's compositions draw from Stravinsky to Art Tatum and beyond.



The last concert in the Jazz Off Center series features Dave Liebman.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

THE exceptional Tallis Scholars are at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center tonight (8:30) performing a combination of English and Italian Renaissance music. There is an extra concert tomorrow at Kibbutz Mizra.

Also in Tel Aviv tonight you can enjoy a special program entitled "Mozart and Freud: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit" - a lecture-concert presented by David Gurevitch with cellist Michael Haran and some of his musical friends. 9:30 at the Enav Center.

The Israel Chamber Orchestra plays Bach and Telemann tomorrow (12:30) at the Tel Aviv Museum. The soloists are violinist Vladimir Reider, flutist Michael Weintraub and recorder players Michael Meltzer, Yaël Shimshoni and Sang Sela.

The Israeli Quartet performs quartets by Mozart, Schubert and Beethoven, Saturday (11 a.m.) at Tel Aviv's Tzavta.

The Israel Woodwind Quintet with pianist Ohad Ben-Ari performs chamber music by Mozart and Nielsen as well as Berio's enchanting Opus Zoo, Saturday at the Israel Music Conservatory in Tel Aviv (8:30).

TELEVISION

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

THOSE familiar with the haunting melodies of composers such as Smetana, Dvorak and Janacek will revel in Sunday Morning, a 30-minute 1992 Czech television program which showcases a wide selection of traditional folk songs shot on location, in the fields, taverns and beautiful countryside of the Czech Republic. Channel 8 tomorrow evening (10:30) and Saturday (4).

DANCE

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

THE Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company celebrates its 25th anniversary with three special performances this weekend in the north. Saturday (11 a.m.) at Kibbutz Kabri the company presents its family program with Peter and the Wolf and The Carnival of the Animals. Saturday (8:30) at Heichal Hatarbut in Nahariya one can see Rami Be'er's gripping and exceptionally well-performed Aïde Memoire while Sunday at the same venue you can see Be'er's more recent opus, Makomshetu, also at 8:30.

TELEVISION

CHANNEL 1

6:30 News in Arabic 6:45 Exercise Hour 7:00 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Cartoons 8:30 Fables of King Babar 9:00 Cartoons 9:30 Auto 10:00 A Clever Girl Like Lotta 10:30 Kids Can Rock and Roll 11:00 Lola and Her Friends 11:30 Under the Mountain 12:00 Haydaze 12:30 Zombit 13:00 Cartoons 15:00 Auto

CHANNEL 1

15:32 The Last Dinosaur 15:55 Rex 16:30 Dovele around the country 16:59 A New Evening 17:34 Zap - To culture 18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS

18:30 Current affairs 19:00 News 19:30 Every Evening with Marav Michaeli 20:00 Mabat News 20:45 Live culture magazine hosted by Yael Dan 21:45 Whose earth is this? - documentary 22:35 And the Envelope Please - A Canadian documentary goes backstage at Hollywood's Oscars 23:30 News magazine 00:00 Verse of the Day

CHANNEL 2

10:00 Little Red Riding Hood 11:00 Invitation to Ski 17:00 Gulliver's Travels 17:30 Time Out 18:00 Jewish Mysticism 18:30 female Perspectives 19:00 Hour (rpt) 19:30 Magazine in Russian 20:00 A New Evening (with Russian subtitles) 20:30 Preparation for Bagrut - reading comprehension 21:00 Zombit Business 21:30 Food for Thought - five-year series on science series 22:00 70 Faces 22:30 Spitted Talk - The Cairo Geniza

FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Falcon Crest (rpt) 9:00 One Life to Live (rpt) 10:00 The Young and the Restless (rpt) 10:30 Santa Barbara 10:30 Time Around 10:55 W.K.R.P. in Cincinnati 11:25 Celeste (rpt) 12:10 Neighbors (rpt) 12:35 Perry Mason 13:30 Starting at 1:30 14:05 The A Team 14:55 Falcon Crest 15:45 Secrets of the 1950s 16:30 Neighbors 17:10 Models Inc. 18:00 One Life to Live 18:45 The Young and the Restless 19:30 Local broadcast 20:00 Celeste 20:50 New York News - drama 21:40 Home Of Our Own (1993) - A poor but spunky widow with six children goes to a small town in Idaho, where they endure a difficult winter. Starring Kathy Bates. (104 mins.) 22:45 Sisters 20:35 Counter Offensive 1:25 Knost Landing 2:10 Woman without a Past - drama 3:00 Dempsey and Makepeace 3:55 The Golden Years - mini-series by Stephen King

JORDAN TV

14:00 Disney's Aladdin 14:30 The Legends of Treasure Islands 15:00 My Secret Identity - comedy 15:20 NBA 16:20 Pirates - documentary 17:30 Gillette World Sport special 18:00 French programs 20:30 News

WHERE TO GO

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS28.06 per line, including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS20.65 per line, including VAT, per month.

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TEL AVIV MUSEUMS Micha Bar-Am - The Last War. Photographs. Transit Barzilai, 1995. Miriam Cabessa. Paintings. Yasoo. Dorchin - Blockad Well; Face to Face; The Museum Collections. HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART. Sculpture. From "Stronman" Reception: 1. Centre, 2. Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses: 49, 50, 29, 299. For info, call 82818. HAIFA Visit the Hadassah installations, Chagall Windows. Tel. 02-416333, 02-776271.

HAIFA WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

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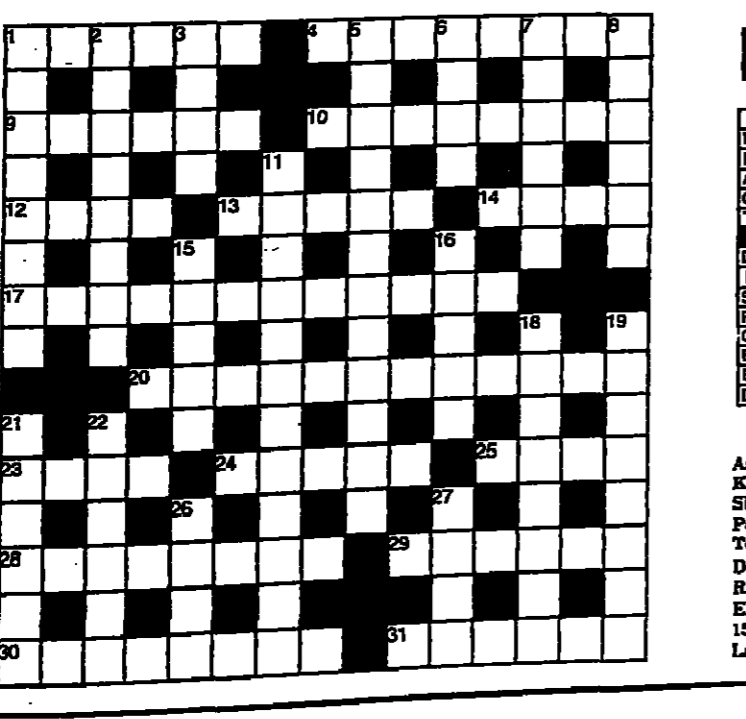
Erin - Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 610303, Tel Aviv 548111 (children/youth 6561113), Haifa 8572222, BeerSheva 281128, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 9988410, Kfar Sava 7074555, Hadera 346789.

Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-624111, 03-561133 (also in Russian), 07-376310, 08-550505 (also in Amharic), Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men), Jerusalem 255558, Haifa 8680111, Eilat 318177.

Hadassah Medical Organization - Israel Cancer Association telephone support service 02-247876 (eryl). Netanya: Laniado.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 Metal detector? (6) 4 Used to be in a job (8) 9 Settle down in Northern steel organisation (6) 10 A great many stars appear the same in my system (5,3) 12 Transported for regimental training (4) 13 Recorder has to come to the point (5) 14 He goes forward or back in play (4) 17 Such a constituency will have MPs on edge, presumably (8,4) 20 Rate increase (12) 23 Knock back some gin (4) 24 A treatise closely followed, we hear (5) 25 Tail cut to a point (4) 28 Pull weed out that came out in spring, perhaps (6,2) 29 A West African state containing a West African state (6) 30 Quarter-deck cutters (8) 31 Cause irritation right on the joint (6) DOWN 1 Wide-screen presentation of American production (8) 2 Get through with wine examined at the border (8) 3 At heart I feel such things aren't easy to grasp (4) 5 Chap seemed in trouble in debut as an MP (6,6) 6 Fancy something similar? (4) 7 Acted sleepily as the new day breaks (6) 8 Humorous nonsense, but it could bring the house down (3,3) 11 It has the military stamp on it (6,6) 15 The last place to fight? (5) 16 Father goes on foot to get fruit (6) 18 Poorly made Russian fighter goes up with a bang (8) 19 Out when ball hit to leg (2,6) 21 Set out to marry drunk! (6) 22 Hilda is upset over a bloomer (6) 26 Sign put up for Verne's captain (4) 27 A burning issue (4)



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 Clergyman (6) 4 Put on scales (5) 8 Fat (5) 9 Ream (7) 10 Representative (7) 11 A pivot (4) 12 Permit (3) 14 Minus (4) 15 Wealthy (4) 18 Beverage (3) 21 Summit (4) 23 Blame (7) 25 Incentives (7) 26 Weak (5) 27 Supple (5) 28 Specialist (6) DOWN 1 At once (16) 2 Spire (7) 3 Cloudy (8) 4 Decline (4) 5 Directory (5) 6 Impede (6) 7 Expertise (5) 13 Impale (8) 16 Bravery (7) 17 Maiden (6) 19 Pungent (5) 20 Fanatic (6) 22 Oust (5) 24 Stratagem (4)

Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9111 The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-8529205, for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

Erin - Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 610303, Tel Aviv 548111 (children/youth 6561113), Haifa 8572222, BeerSheva 281128, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 9988410, Kfar Sava 7074555, Hadera 346789.

Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-624111, 03-561133 (also in Russian), 07-376310, 08-550505 (also in Amharic), Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men), Jerusalem 255558, Haifa 8680111, Eilat 318177.

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SOLUTIONS

INDIVIDUALS SPEC... P... Q... R... S... T... U... V... W... X... Y... Z... Quick Solution ACROSS: 1 Further, 5 Moore, 8 Kappa, 9 Majesty, 10 Registrar, 12 Ski, 13 Spotty, 14 Action, 17 Bye, 18 Personnel, 20 Dusted, 21 Devon, 23 Today, 24 Lavery. DOWN: 1 Fakir, 2 Rap, 3 Redcoat, 4 Remark, 5 Major, 6 Obsession, 7 Elysian, 11 Grovelled, 13 Sub-ed, 15 Chowder, 16 Bridal, 18 Party, 19 Lanky, 22 Via.

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6:30 News in Arabic 6:45 Exercise Hour 7:00 Good Morning Israel

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8:00 Cartoons 8:30 Fables of King Babar 9:00 Cartoons 9:30 Auto 10:00 A Clever Girl Like Lotta 10:30 Kids Can Rock and Roll 11:00 Lola and Her Friends 11:30 Under the Mountain 12:00 Haydaze 12:30 Zombit 13:00 Cartoons 15:00 Auto

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18:30 Current affairs 19:00 News 19:30 Every Evening with Marav Michaeli 20:00 Mabat News 20:45 Live culture magazine hosted by Yael Dan 21:45 Whose earth is this? - documentary 22:35 And the Envelope Please - A Canadian documentary goes backstage at Hollywood's Oscars 23:30 News magazine 00:00 Verse of the Day

CHANNEL 2

10:00 Little Red Riding Hood 11:00 Invitation to Ski 17:00 Gulliver's Travels 17:30 Time Out 18:00 Jewish Mysticism 18:30 female Perspectives 19:00 Hour (rpt) 19:30 Magazine in Russian 20:00 A New Evening (with Russian subtitles) 20:30 Preparation for Bagrut - reading comprehension 21:00 Zombit Business 21:30 Food for Thought - five-year series on science series 22:00 70 Faces 22:30 Spitted Talk - The Cairo Geniza

FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Falcon Crest (rpt) 9:00 One Life to Live (rpt) 10:00 The Young and the Restless (rpt) 10:30 Santa Barbara 10:30 Time Around 10:55 W.K.R.P. in Cincinnati 11:25 Celeste (rpt) 12:10 Neighbors (rpt) 12:35 Perry Mason 13:30 Starting at 1:30 14:05 The A Team 14:55 Falcon Crest 15:45 Secrets of the 1950s 16:30 Neighbors 17:10 Models Inc. 18:00 One Life to Live 18:45 The Young and the Restless 19:30 Local broadcast 20:00 Celeste 20:50 New York News - drama 21:40 Home Of Our Own (1993) - A poor but spunky widow with six children goes to a small town in Idaho, where they endure a difficult winter. Starring Kathy Bates. (104 mins.) 22:45 Sisters 20:35 Counter Offensive 1:25 Knost Landing 2:10 Woman without a Past - drama 3:00 Dempsey and Makepeace 3:55 The Golden Years - mini-series by Stephen King

JORDAN TV

14:00 Disney's Aladdin 14:30 The Legends of Treasure Islands 15:00 My Secret Identity - comedy 15:20 NBA 16:20 Pirates - documentary 17:30 Gillette World Sport special 18:00 French programs 20:30 News

WHERE TO GO

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Jerusalem: Bikur Holim (Internal, ENT); Shazar Zedek (surgery, orthopedics, obstetrics); Hadassah Ein Kerem (pediatrics, ophthalmology). Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics, internal surgery). Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE 100

FIRE 102

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NEWS

No withdrawal from Hebron today

ISRAEL will not leave Hebron, as it was scheduled to today, until the Palestinians rein in terrorists, Foreign Minister Ehud Barak said yesterday.

He also suggested that final status talks, set to begin in May, may be delayed unless Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat cracks down harder on Islamic militants.

"When the blood of our people is spilling in the streets, we cannot negotiate, or redeploy from Hebron, or consider the modalities of permanent status negotiations," Barak told the annual convention of the International Press Institute, which drew 300 editors and media executives from 85 countries.

"I hope the situation will be created where we can reopen full-scale negotiations with the Palestinians, but at least partially

it is up to them," he said. "There is no justification for dealing with a political entity if it can't exert the most basic attribute of a political entity - namely the monopoly of the use of power and the holding of weapons."

Barak said he believed Arafat needed to do more to rein in Islamic militants, but conceded that the Palestinians have rounded up hundreds of Hamas and Islamic Jihad activists.

He said Israel is willing to open a dialogue with the Islamic fundamentalists if they abandon terrorism, participate in elections, and settle disputes "in air-conditioned rooms and not through the pulling of triggers."

"If the Palestinian people will elect one of them to sit on top over there, which I don't believe [will happen], we will talk to him," he said.

He said he is "not very optimistic" about Israel-Syria talks resuming soon, but that they could get back on track after the elections.

"I believe we should find a way to resume discussions with the Syrians. It might take a few weeks. It might come just after our elections. I believe we should renew this," he said.

In her speech at the conference, PA Council member Hanan Ashrawi said the closure has caused anger and resentment.

"You cannot get locked in this self-perpetuating cycle of violence and reprisal," Ashrawi said. "What we need is the courage and vision to break out of the cycle ... and deal with the causes."

She said outside help is needed to break the impasse.

"We need neutral intervention and not just the Americans," Ashrawi said. (AP)

IDF redeployment in Hebron likely only after elections

IT'S no surprise the IDF is still in Hebron today. Defense sources say the troops are likely to remain there until at least after Pessah, even though it is a violation of the Oslo accords.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has conditioned the withdrawal upon the Palestinians capturing Mohammed Deif, the mastermind of the latest bus bombings, and changing the clauses in the Palestine Covenant calling for Israel's destruction. These were conditions which could hardly be met by the midnight deadline.

Most technical excuses are no longer valid, since the IDF has already removed much of its equipment from the areas it is to vacate in Hebron, and the bypass road is practically complete. In fact, IDF commanders and defense officials say the redeployment probably could take place in

about six hours.

Israel is using Hebron as a lever to exert more pressure on the Palestinian Authority to crack down on Islamic militants. But Israel's hesitation equally derives from its fears that handing over 90 percent of the city, a Hamas hotbed, to the Palestinians would make the entire country more vulnerable to attacks.

In the race for prime minister, Peres has sidelined his visionary image and appears to have taken up Yitzhak Rabin's "Mr. Security" role. Since another terrorist attack could give Binyamin Netanyahu the edge, it is questionable whether Peres will order the withdrawal from Hebron before the May 29 elections.

However, Peres may want to set

facts on the ground to contend with all post-election scenarios. And Palestinians argue that having PA President Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Police on the ground in Hebron would give him an edge in controlling Islamic militants there.

As far as the Palestinians are concerned, they see the failure to redeploy from Hebron as a broken promise which will only cause a further erosion of Palestinian support for the peace process.

"We are not prepared to pay the invoice for Peres's election. They are making a big mistake and the support of the population for the peace process is decreasing daily," said Jamil Tarifi, PA minister of civil affairs.

Still, at this stage, the government is more likely to listen to the pleas to stay put from Jewish settlers in Hebron and Kiryat Arba.



Florence mayor Mario Primicerio Stanos stands next to the replica statue of David which was unveiled at the Citadel in Jerusalem yesterday. (Brian Hecker)

Hebron Jews wonder about their future

SINCE the signing of Oslo 2 in September, Hebron's 450 Jews have largely gauged time against one date, March 28.

On this day, the IDF was supposed to redeploy from the city. On this day, Hebron was supposed to go the way of Jenin, Tulkarm, Nablus, Kalkilya, Ramallah, and Bethlehem. The day was etched in the minds of Hebron's settlement activists, who prefaced their protests - including furious lobbying efforts - with words like "only 20 more days."

Then the bombs blew up in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv and it turned out that two of the suicide bombers came from the Hebron area. And everything changed ... at least for the time being.

"I feel as if we have been given a renewed lease on life," said Orit Shtruck, who lives in the Abraham Avinu compound. "There is mercy."

Under the Oslo accords, the IDF was to pull back to certain defined areas in Hebron today, giving the Palestinian Authority control over much of the city.

The IDF, until the bomb went off outside Dizengoff Center on March 4, was busy bringing in bulletproof guard-posts to the

Jewish compounds, putting up new roadblocks around the Machpela Cave and the Jewish neighborhoods, and negotiating with the Jews to have them replace the glass in their living room windows with bulletproof glass.

This all stopped. Instead, settlement spokesman David Wilder said, the IDF began a "tremendous tightening of security."

Hebron's settlers maintain that, for all intents and purposes, the IDF effectively withdrew from much of Hebron after the PA Council elections on January 20.

Technically, the IDF was still in control of the whole city, Wilder said, but the situation on the ground was different. Settlers reported hearing round after round of gunfire in the city every night and complained that the IDF was not doing anything about it.

"Now the IDF has set up roadblocks," Wilder said. "Soldiers stop people in the street. They check identification cards. They act as they used to act."

The settlers are hoping, praying, that the situation continues. They calculate that it is not in Shimon

Peres's political interest to leave the city now. They figure that he doesn't want to risk a disaster accompanying the pullout, and does not want to alienate the hard-core voters to whom Hebron is dear. This is what they want to believe. But neither Shtruck nor Wilder will say unequivocally that there will be no pullout until after the elections. And both believe the IDF is capable of redeploying in a couple hours, without giving the settlers advance warning.

"They don't have to tell us if they are going to leave," Shtruck said. "They don't see us as a partner."

"They could very well pull out without telling us," Wilder said. "Peres might say he won't do it to stop any protest. He knows that if they pull out here, it would not go smoothly like everywhere else. People here will not just sit home and wave good-bye."

Not everyone agrees. Ya'acov Ben-Taria is a physician who moved his family of seven to Hebron from Elkana two years ago.

"If my brothers decide to abandon me, what can I do," he said. "Jibril Rajoub's men will be 100 meters from my home. If that is not abandonment, what is?"

Hizbullah leader visits 'troops' in south Lebanon

HIZBULLAH leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah has reportedly visited members of the organization's fighting arm in south Lebanon to praise them for their recent wave of attacks on the IDF and South Lebanese Army.

News of the secret visit was announced yesterday on Hizbullah radio.

The reported visit was seen by some observers as a gesture of

defiance by the Hizbullah leader, designed to demonstrate his and the organization's ability to move about freely in south Lebanon without fear of any IDF reprisals.

Hizbullah radio said Nasrallah had praised the men for "striking fear into the hearts of the Zionist occupiers."

Israel, he reportedly said, had retreated from its threats of retaliation because of "it doesn't have the opportunity to hit us," not because of US pressure.

"The Americans want to impose a new equation in the south whereby all resistance activities would cease in return for Israel not launching a major operation, while our land remains occupied and our brothers and sisters are held hostage in their prisons," Nasrallah was quoted as saying.

There and then, the participants at the meeting, as well as Otis himself, donated a total of \$10,000, which I brought back to Israel with me and have given to the authorities to aid the terror attack victims," said Gronberg.

"Otis intends to continue the campaign through the auspices of his chain of newspapers and radio stations, as well as in broadcasts on television in the US," said Gronberg.

WEATHER

Jerusalem 6-18
Beersheba 8-24
Tel Aviv 11-21
Haifa 10-22
Tiberias 8-24
Afula 8-23
Samaria 6-18
Golan 6-17
Dead Sea 12-26
Eilat 14-27

Forecast: Partly cloudy, warmer.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	
Amsterdam	44	51	cloudy
Berlin	41	48	cloudy
Buenos Aires	15	22	cloudy
Calcutta	24	31	cloudy
Chengde	41	48	cloudy
Chongqing	41	48	cloudy
Delhi	24	31	cloudy
Hankow	41	48	cloudy
Hong Kong	19	26	cloudy
Jakarta	24	31	cloudy
Los Angeles	51	58	cloudy
London	41	48	cloudy
Manila	24	31	cloudy
Moscow	41	48	cloudy
New York	41	48	cloudy
Paris	41	48	cloudy
Perth	15	22	cloudy
Rangoon	24	31	cloudy
Sydney	15	22	cloudy
Tokyo	41	48	cloudy
Zurich	41	48	cloudy

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the ten of spades, ace of hearts, eight of diamonds, and queen of clubs.

US Christian group aids terror victims

THE leader of an American-based global Christian organization has launched an aid campaign for Israeli victims of terror.

The move began as a spontaneous gesture by George Otis, head of the Pentecostal High Adventure Ministries, during a recent meeting of the movement's leadership in Los Angeles.

"The meeting took place shortly after the Dizengoff suicide attack and Otis, who has been a good and very close friend of Israel for many years, said something had to be done other than offering prayers and sending condolences," said Yitzhak Gronberg, an Israeli tour operator, who was present at the meeting.

Otis, who runs a network of Christian radio stations around the world, including the Voice of Hope station in south Lebanon, has in the past helped with charitable donations for residents of the security zone and the South Lebanese Army.

"There and then, the participants at the meeting, as well as Otis himself, donated a total of \$10,000, which I brought back to Israel with me and have given to the authorities to aid the terror attack victims," said Gronberg.

"Otis intends to continue the campaign through the auspices of his chain of newspapers and radio stations, as well as in broadcasts on television in the US," said Gronberg.

Tracing Missing People

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The dates: Sunday, May 12 - Wednesday, May 15

The price: US\$295

Includes: A/C bus from Tel Aviv/Jerusalem and return, desert jeep travel, 3 nights at the Nueiba Hilton (in a double room), 3 hotel breakfasts, 1 hotel dinner, 1 picnic lunches, 1 Bedouin dinner, services of an English speaking guide and Egyptian escort, and all entrance fees.

KENYA: 8-DAY SAFARI

The world's greatest concentration of wild animals - giant herds numbering hundreds of thousands - can be found in the Savannah of East Africa. We shall tour the foothills of the 5,200 m., snow-covered Mt. Kenya, visit the Samburu game reserve, home to unusual giraffes and zebras, see the millions of flamingoes on Lake Nakuru, and then continue south to the Masai Mara Reserve, with its monkeys, hippopotami and lions. We'll meet members of various local tribes, including nomads and Bantu farmers.

The accommodation is excellent.

The dates: Departure Monday, July 15; return Monday, July 22

The price: US\$1930 per person (with double room occupancy)

Includes: return flight by El Al, use of special safari vehicles with viewing platform, 7 nights in first-class hotels and safari lodges, full board (breakfast only during two stays in Nairobi), experienced tour guide English-speaking Zoologist, Uzi Meitoom. All entrance fees.

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The dates: Departure, Wednesday, June 5; return June 17

The price: US\$2,112 per person (with double room occupancy)

Includes: international return flights by Air Malta, 12 nights half-board accommodation in 5 star hotels or superior tourist accommodation in the Sahara region, travel in air-conditioned coaches, all entrance fees, services of experienced English-speaking guide, and local guides.

PLEASE NOTE - there is no travel on Shabbat, and fish and vegetarian food is available. For reservations and further information, contact The Jerusalem Post Travel Club Tel. 02-6221679, Fax. 02-236161 Sun. - Thur., 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. - ask for Tova or Nicole.

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